A TREATISE ON THE DISEASES and LAMENESS OF HORSES.

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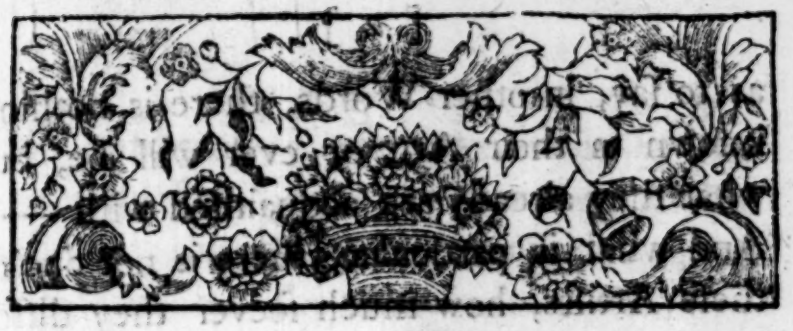

A TREATISE, &c.

CHAP. I.

On SHOEING.

——— *Sub Judice Lis eſt.*

I AM afraid the People called *Blackſmiths* will be much affronted with this Chapter, and hold it very cheap, becauſe it propoſes to inſtruct them in the Art of Shoeing.

If you pretend to have your Horſe ſhod according to your own Mind, it is a general Saying amongſt theſe Men, that they do not want to be taught; which is as much

as to ſay, in other Words, there is nothing known in their Art, or ever will be, but what they already are acquainted with ——. And what is particular, there is not one of theſe Artiſts, how much ſoever they differ in Method, but gives the ſame Anſwer, and has Vanity enough to think, that he knows more than his Neighbour —— Vanity! The nobleſt Paſſion of the Mind, the beſt, the kindeſt Gift of Heaven, given us to balance each human Failing.

It has been a Maxim amongſt wiſe Men of all Ages, and has been ſaid by twenty Authors, or more, that Nature does nothing in vain; from the Obſervation of which Truth, reaſonable People have been apt to conclude, that Nature ſhould be the Guide of all our Operations.

Now, if you aſk one of theſe Artiſts his Reaſon for acting in this or that particular Manner, or ſhould enquire of him the Uſe of any Part, aſſigned to ſome particular End, he can give no Anſwer, nor even pretends to have any Knowledge thereof, but is guided by Cuſtom alone.

Hence reaſonable People will alſo conclude,

clude, that many Errors have ariſen in the Execution of this Art, and that theſe Artiſts ſhould not think themſelves aggrieved, by any Information they may receive from any Hand.

Be that as it will, my Intent is to explain the proper Manner, original Deſign, Uſe, and Abuſe of Shoeing, as clearly and conciſely as I can, ſo that every Man of common Capacity may be able to judge for himſelf in this Matter.

When Time was young, when the Earth was in a State of Nature, and Turnpike Roads as yet were not, the Horſe needed not the Aſſiſtance of this Artiſt; for the Divine Artiſt had taken Care to give his Feet ſuch Defence as it pleaſed him; and who is weak enough to ſuppoſe, His Wiſdom was not ſufficient to the Purpoſe in ſuch a State.

But to prevent all Suppoſition and Cavilling on this Matter, let us only appeal to our Senſes, and we may every Day ſee Horſes, Mares, and Colts, running about on all Sorts of Ground unſhod, and uninjured in their Feet.

In many Parts of the World at this Day where the Face of the Earth is ſandy, Horſes are accuſtomed to carry their Riders unſhod, and much to their Advantage it is in ſuch Countries; nay, even in this Kingdom, I have known ſeveral Horſes rode for a conſiderable Time unſhod, and that on the Turnpike Roads about *London*, without any Injury done to their Feet.

And, I believe, there are many Horſes, whoſe Feet are of ſuch a Kind, as to enable them to travel their whole Life-time unſhod on any Road, if they were raſped round and ſhort at the Toe; becauſe ſome Feet, expoſed to hard Objects, become thereby obdurate enough to reſiſt them, and to ſupport the Weight without breaking.

But becauſe there always was a great Difference in the Nature and Texture of Horſes Feet, Mankind (after certain Periods of Time, when the Face of the Earth became changed) found themſelves under a Neceſſity of adding ſome other Defence, beſides the natural one, to preſerve the Cruſt of ſuch Feet as were weak, and not able to ſupport them againſt new and hard Objects.

From the Good of this Practice, tried and diſcovered on particular Kinds of Feet (though perhaps but a partial Good) it is no Wonder, that the Cuſtom of putting Shoes on all Kinds of Feet became general.

Our Anceſtors, the original Shoers, propoſed nothing more, I dare ſay, in their firſt Efforts, than to preſerve the Cruſt from breaking away, and thought themſelves happy they had Skill enough ſo to do—the Moderns alſo are wiſely content with this in the Racing Way.

But, in Proceſs of Time, the Fertility of Invention, and the Vanity of Mankind, have produced Variety of Methods, almoſt all which are productive of Lameneſs: And I think I ſhall be able to ſhew clearly, that various Lameneſs is produced by want of Judgment in the Shoer, and that merely from not underſtanding the Deſign of Nature.

But waving all theſe modern Artiſts know, or do not know, I ſuppoſe it will be univerſally aſſented to, that whatever Method of Shoeing approaches neareſt to the Law of Nature, ſuch is likely to be the

moſt perfect Method; and as the Feet of different Horſes differ from each other, ſo, if we would arrive at any Perfection in this Art, the human Reaſon muſt be employed, in diſcovering and aſcertaining wherein their Difference conſiſts, that each may be treated according to its Nature —— And yet with reſpect to each, and all, ſome general Rules may be ſtill allowed.

For the Sake of thoſe, who may be unacquainted with Horſes Feet, and for their Inſtruction, I ſhall deſcribe ſuch Parts only of the Foot, for the preſent, as offer themſelves to our View, and come under our Cognizance, as the immediate and principal Objects of Care, when intended to be ſhod.

Theſe are the outer Sole, the Cruſt which like a Wall ſurrounds it, the Frog, the Bars, one on each Side, and the ſpongy, ſkin-like Subſtance which covers the hinder and cellular Part of the Foot, and is continued to the Heel of the Horſe.

With reſpect to the Treatment of ſome of theſe, the *Sieur la Foſſe* (to whom the World is indebted for many ingenious Obſervations) has already laid down ſome Rules —And

— And though I dare ſay, every Man who has tried his Method of Shoeing, is convinced of its Impropriety, yet ſome uſeful Hints may be gathered from his Doctrine.

He ſays, the Sole ſhould never be pared; his Reaſon is very obvious and juſt; namely, that the Sole, not pared, acquires a great Degree of Firmneſs and Obduracy, whereby it is enabled to reſiſt all extraneous Bodies, ſuch as Glaſs, Nails, Flint, *&c.*

There is another Reaſon equally obvious, which is, that the Wiſdom of the Creator intended this outer Sole, and its Obduracy, as a natural and proper Defence to the inner Sole, which lies immediately under the other, between that and the Bone of the Foot — This inner Sole being nothing elſe but the Expanſion of the great Tendon, or Sinew of the Leg, which is continued to the Bottom of the Foot, and overſpreads the Bone thereof.

This tendinous Expanſion, when the outer Sole is pared, and the Animal put into violent Motion, is, for want of its Defence, ſuſceptible of great Pain, conſequently liable to great Inflammation; and from

this Cauſe many a Horſe has been rendered lame, perhaps caſt his Hoofs, and been undone for ever.

If it be aſked what becomes of the Sole when not pared, it dries, ſeparates, and ſcales away.

La Foſſe has alſo ſaid, the Frog ſhould never be pared; his Reaſon is, that the Frog, being united to the great Tendon of the Leg (all which Tendons are unelaſtick Bodies) is itſelf an elaſtick Body, is placed there as a proper Point of Support, and ſerves as a Baſis, to relieve the Tendon at each Step, or Motion.—But if the Frog be pared, it cannot be admitted to touch the Ground; for want of which Support, the Tendon is elongated and ſtrained, hence frequent Lameneſs of the Tendons is occaſioned; and from this Cauſe alſo Windgalls are moſt frequently produced.

I know there are many People who maintain Tendons to be elaſtick Bodies, but it is a ridiculous and vulgar Error, becauſe all Tendons or Muſcles are confined to their proper Sphere of Acting; from whence it will follow, that if they were elaſtick, the

Force

Force of any Muſcle (Part of which is tendinous) would be eluded, before ſuch tendinous Part could act on its proper Object.

Moreover every Man's Eye will ſhew him, that Tendons are not elaſtick, from their looſe uncontracted Figure which is eaſily to be perceived in the hinder Leg of the Horſe, when he moves gently.

There are other Reaſons why the Frog ſhould not be pared.

If admitted to touch the Ground, it helps to ſtop the Horſe in his Career, as the Figure of it will plainly evince.

The Frog, together with the Bars, occupying the hinder Part of the Foot, is deſigned by Nature to diſtend and keep it open, which, when cut away, ſuffers the Heels, the Quarters, and the coronary Ring to become contracted, whereby another Lameneſs is produced, which ſhall be treated of in its proper Place.

The Bar is that Part ſituate between the Heel, the Frog and the Quarter on each Side, and is not to be ſcooped out according

to the general Cuſtom, for the Reaſon laſt mentioned, becauſe, together with the Frog, its Uſe is to keep open the hinder Part of the Foot, as well as to defend it.

The ſpongy, ſkin-like Subſtance is not to be cut away till it becomes raggy, becauſe it is the Expanſion of the Skin round the Heel, its Uſe being to unite more firmly the Foot and its Contents, and to keep the cellular Part of the Heel from growing rigid; it alſo ſurrounds the coronary Ring, and may be obſerved to peel, and dry away as it deſcends on the Hoof.

Theſe are general Rules to be obſerved, with reſpect to every Kind of Foot.

But becauſe *la Foſſe* has ſaid, the Sole and Frog ſhould never be pared, many of our Countrymen, miſtaking his Meaning, have fallen into another Extreme, and ſo have not pared the Foot at all. — Yet it is neceſſary, that the Cruſt of all Horſes which are ſhod, ſhould be pared more or leſs, according to its different Degree of Strength. — But no general Method can be laid down in this Reſpect, becauſe the Natures of Feet

differ

differ greatly from each other, by which alone the Artiſt is to be guided.

And to prove this Neceſſity of paring the Cruſt, it is to be obſerved, that the Superficies of the Cruſt of every Foot, whereon the Shoe reſts, becomes rotten in a few Weeks; ſo that if a new Shoe be ſet upon an unſound Foundation, it will not ſtand firm or long. — The Cruſt alſo, in ſuch Caſe, will ſhell or break away.

Now where the Foot is deep and hollow, the Cruſt is generally thick and ſtrong; this cannot be pared down too low, (ſo as not to fall into the Quick) becauſe the Strength of the Cruſt alone will occaſion ſuch a Compreſſion on the interior Parts of the Foot, as to produce a Lameneſs, which will be ſhewn in its proper Place.

In all broad, fleſhy Feet, the Cruſt is thin, and ſhould therefore ſuffer the leaſt poſſible Loſs. — On ſuch Feet, the Raſp alone is generally ſufficient to make the Bottom plain, and produce a ſound Foundation, without the Uſe of the deſperate Buttreſs.

And thus each Kind of Foot is to be

treated, according to its different Degree of Strength or Weakneſs.

The Superficies of the Foot round the Outſide, now made plain and ſmooth, the Shoe is to be made quite flat; and to prevent this flat Shoe from preſſing on the Sole of the Horſe, the Outſide thereof is to be made thick, and the Inſide gradually thinner.

In ſuch a Shoe, the Frog is admitted to touch the Ground, the Neceſſity of which has been already ſhewn; — add to this, the Horſe ſtands more firmly on the Ground, having the ſame Points of Support, as in a natural State.

Here now is a plain, eaſy Method, agreeable to common Senſe and Reaſon, conformable to the anatomical Structure of the Parts, and therefore to the Deſign of Nature. — A Method ſo plain, that one would think nobody could ever ſwerve from it, or commit any Miſtake in an Art, where nothing is required, but to make ſmooth the Surface of the Foot, to know what Loſs of Cruſt each Kind of Foot will bear with Advantage to itſelf, and to nail thereon a Piece of Iron, adapted to the natural Tread of

the Horſe; the Deſign, Good, or Uſe of the Iron, being only to defend the Cruſt from breaking, the Sole wanting no Defence, if never pared.

If we now examine the preſent Method of Shoeing, by camparing it with what has been already ſaid, we ſhall eaſily perceive its ſad Effects, which ſhall be ſubject to the enſuing Chapter.

CHAP. II.

Is relative to the Firſt.

NOW the modern Artiſt uſes little Difference in the Treatment of any Kind of Foot; but with a ſtrong Arm, and a ſharp Weapon carries all before him, and will take more from a weak-footed Horſe at one paring, than Nature can furniſh again in ſome Months, whereby ſuch are rendered lame.

If a ſtrong-footed Horſe, with narrow and contracted Heels, be brought before him, ſuch meets with Treatment yet more ſevere; the Bar is ſcooped out, the Frog trim-

trimmed, and the Sole drawn as thin as poſſible, even to the Quick, under Pretence of giving him Eaſe, becauſe he ſays, he is hot-footed or foundered.—By which Treatment, the Horſe is rendered more lame than he was before, as I ſhall immediately ſhew.

In the interior Part of the Foot, (which few or none of theſe Artiſts have ever examined, at leaſt to little Purpoſe) there is a broad Cartilage annexed to each ſuperior End, or Corner of the Foot Bone, there is alſo a ſmall Bone, called the Nut Bone, placed tranſverſely in the Foot, between the Bone thereof and the coronary Bone; the Ends of which are articulated to the inner Sides of the Foot Bone, whoſe Ends are alſo cartilaginous; and from the Situation and Concern of theſe in all Motion, it is neceſſary they ſhould be of a cartilaginous, and pliant, or yielding Nature.

Now when this ſame foundered Foot, (as it is called) is robbed of thoſe Parts, which were deſigned to keep it open, the Heels and the coronary Ring become more contracted than they were before; by which Means theſe Cartilages of the Foot Bone

are more compreſſed. All the tendinous Expanſions of the Foot are compreſſed and inflamed, and the cartilaginous Ends of the Nut Bone are ſqueezed as in a Vice.

And it is to be obſerved, that whenever the Heels of the Horſe are deep or narrow, and there is a Stricture round the coronary Ring, all ſuch Feet are always more or leſs lame, after ſome Uſe, and that merely from the Compreſſion above named.—The Truth of which will be more readily conceived, by examining the interior Structure of the Foot. Becauſe, as *Horace* ſays.

Segnius irritant animos demiſſa par aures,
Quam quæ ſunt oculis ſubjecta fidelibus. —

But the modern Artiſts, not content with ruining and deſtroying the Work of Providence, ſeem reſolved, that all their Operations ſhall be of a Piece, and in every Thing act by Contraries.—And, to prove this, I ſhall demonſtrate, that the Shoe commonly made Uſe of, is contrary to Senſe and Reaſon, as well as to the natural Tread of the Foot.

It is to be underſtood, that no Horſe can go, if the Shoe reſts upon the Sole; and to avoid

avoid this Evil, the modern Shoe muſt be formed, and ſtand concave; becauſe the modern Shoe is made thinneſt on the Outſide, and thickeſt on the Inſide.

Mark now the Inconveniences ariſing from the unequal Surface of ſuch a Shoe.

The Horſe having fewer Points of Support, is more liable to blunder, to ſtrain the Tendons, injure the Cartilages and Ligaments, break the Bones of the Foot, and to diſlocate ſome of the Joints of the Fore Part.

The Weight of the Horſe bears chiefly on the inner Side of this Shoe, which is the higheſt Part; ſo that the Nails at the Heel, (when the Horſe comes to act) muſt break, or give Way, or tear the Cruſt; hereby the Shoe gets ſomewhat looſe, the finer Sand inſinuates itſelf between the Foot and the Shoe-Heel, and the Horſe is, according to our Phraſe, gravelled; perhaps, gets a Corn, with which he is lame for Life; no Cure being ſuppoſed to be had for this Evil.

In this Kind of Shoe, tho' the Frog be not pared, it will be removed to ſuch a Diſtance

Diſtance from the Ground, that it cannot be admitted to touch it; by which Intervention of the Shoe the great Tendon loſes its Support, as much as if the Frog was actually pared.

Further, the Heel of the Horſe is corroded and eat away, and the Cruſt more liable to be broke; nevertheleſs, theſe Men are obſtinate and weak enough to affirm the contrary, and give it as a Reaſon for making the Outſide of the Shoe thinneſt, not perceiving the Conſequence of ſuch unequal Preſſure on the Cruſt.

Having now proved, that Variety of Lameneſs is produced by a wrong Method of Shoeing, I ſhall leave what has been ſaid to the Conſideration of the Reader; the Truth of which, Obſervation and Experience will make manifeſt.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Contains ſome further Obſervations on Shoeing.

LET the Shoe on every Horſe ſtand wider at the Points of the Heels than the Foot itſelf; otherwiſe, as the Foot grows in Length, the Heel of the Shoe in a ſhort Time gets within the Heel of the Horſe; which Preſſure often breaks the Cruſt, produces a temporary Lameneſs, perhaps a Corn.

Let every Kind of Foot be kept as ſhort at the Toe as poſſible, (ſo as not to affect the Quick) for by a long Toe, the Foot becomes thin and weak, the Heels low, and the Tendons of the Leg are ſtrained; the ſhortneſs of the Toe helps alſo to widen narrow Heels.

In all thin weak-footed Horſes, the Raſp ſhould be laid on the Toe in ſuch a Manner, as to render it as thick as may be; by which Means the whole Foot becomes gradually thicker, higher, and ſtronger.

In all Feet, whoſe Texture is very ſtrong, the Raſp may be laid obliquely on the Fore Part of the Foot towards the Toe, and the

Toe

Toe itſelf thinned, whereby the Compreſſion on the Parts may, perhaps, be rendered ſomewhat leſs.

But this Raſp is to be uſed with Diſcretion, leſt the Cruſt being rendered too thin, and not being able to ſupport the Weight of the Horſe, a Sand-crack enſue; which frequently happens, from too free, or unſkilful Uſe of this Tool, and from the natural rigid Texture of the Coronet.

The Heel of the Shoe, on all ſtrong and narrow-heeled Horſes, ſhould be made ſtrait at the extreme Points; the Form of the Shoe in ſome Meaſure helping to diſtend the Heel of the Horſe.

It has been ſaid already, that neither Frog or Sole ſhould ever be pared; nevertheleſs, it muſt be underſtood, that it is impoſſible to pare the Cruſt, without taking away ſome of the adjacent Sole, and it is alſo requiſite, in order to obtain a ſmooth and even Surface, ſo far as the Breadth of the Shoe reaches, and no farther.

The Frog alſo will become ragged, and looſe Pieces will occaſionally ſeparate from

from the Body thereof, perhaps in one Foot, and not in the other. When this happens, it ſhould be cut away with a Knife, to prevent the Gravel lodging therein.—The inferior Point of the ſame, towards the Toe, may alſo be taken down, in ſome Kinds of Feet, where it grows high.

La Foſſe has given us a Caution againſt the Uſe of Cramps, or what in *England* we call Corking; that is, turning up the Shoe at the Points of the Heels.

He ſays, that the Frog being hereby removed to a great Diſtance from the Ground, the Tendon will be inevitably ruptured;—but this is true only in Part.—In the Summer-time, when the Ground is dry and hard, I think this Effect would frequently happen, eſpecially if the Horſe was rode hard.—But in the Winter-time, when the Ground is wet, this cannot happen in a flat Shoe; becauſe the Corking of the Shoe-Heels is then buried in the Ground, whereby the Frog is ſtill admitted to touch the Ground, and to reſt thereon.—And it is neceſſary that all Sportſmen, who hunt on hilly or ſlippery Countries, ſhould have the Shoe-Heels turned up a little in the Winter-

time,

time, eſpecially the hinder Ones, for the Security of their Perſons.

This Method of treating the Foot, and ſuch a kind of Shoe as has been deſcribed, I have uſed many Years; and, to the beſt of my Remembrance, have not had a Horſe lame ſince, except when pricked by the Blackſmith;—and it is a Matter of the greateſt Aſtoniſhment to me, how any other Form of a Shoe could ever come into general Uſe.

Now this flat Shoe is not to be made with a ſmooth Surface, after the *French* Manner, but channelled round, or what is called fullered, after the *Engliſh* Manner; by which the Horſe is better prevented from ſliding about, and the Heads of the Nails are leſs liable to be broke off; both which Inconveniences attend the Shoe whoſe Surface is ſmooth.

But ſo ignorant are theſe our Artiſts, (who do not want to be taught, or, in other Words, know every Thing) that not one in Twenty of them can make theſe flat Shoes, tho' a Pattern lies before them, for which Reaſon

Reaſon they generally diſlike and condemn them.

It has hitherto been thought a difficult Matter to prevent Horſes from Cutting; nevertheleſs, it is generally very eaſy.

Whoever will be at the Trouble of examining the Feet of ſuch Horſes as are accuſtomed to cut themſelves, will at all Times, and in all Horſes, find the Cauſe to be the ſame; namely, the turning out their Toes.

From hence alſo the Neceſſity of Boots, and Bolſters, and Bandages, round the Fetlocks of half the Horſes that are trained at *Newmarket*, to prevent knocking their Joints together.

Now the Colt ſtanding to graze with an out-ſtretched Foot, which is no uncommon Poſture, reſts chiefly on the Inſide of it, by which Means that Part is worn loweſt; this is diſregarded; and, by a Habit of Standing, the Toe grows outward, and he becomes crooked from the Fetlock Joint downwards.

It may perhaps be ſaid, that this Habit

of turning out the Toe is entailed by Nature; but whether it be natural, or acquired, the true Cauſe of it is ſtill the ſame in all Horſes, and depends on nothing elſe, but the inſide Heel being lower than the Outſide.

And to prove this Doctrine, as ſoon as you perceive the Colt's Toe turning out, pare down the Outſide of the Foot as much as you can; repeat it as often as the Foot will allow, and let the Inſide alone; ſo will he grow ſtrait on his Legs and Feet, and never cut or knock himſelf about when he comes into Uſe.

This Method will alſo prevent grown Horſes from Cutting, if the Cruſt of the Foot be ſtrong enough to bear a ſufficient Loſs; if not, the Subſtance of the Iron may be made thicker for the Inſide of the Foot, from the Heel to the Toe, than it is for the Outſide; and where it is practicable, and ſhall appear neceſſary, both theſe Methods may be uſed, and both will aſſiſt for the Purpoſe.—I have rode a Horſe treated in this Manner ſeveral Years, and have found but little Inconvenience to his Going,

or to his Feet, much depending in this Caſe on the Goodneſs thereof.

Such of the Dealers, who are Maſters of their Buſineſs, uſe this kind of Shoe to raiſe the Inſide of the Horſe's Foot, and make him point, as they call it, or ſtand ſtrait on his Feet; and the Chapman, who thinks he has bought a ſtrait legged Nag, is much ſurprized at the Alteration he perceives in him, the firſt Time he is ſhod in other Shoes.

The Cruſt ſhould alſo be ſuffered to grow fulleſt on the Inſide of the Foot, and the outer Part thereof be raſped away as far as can be ſpared.

Nevertheleſs, the modern Shoers, acting in all Things by Contraries, raſp away as much as they can from the inner Part of the Feet.

CHAP. IV.

Wherein it will be proved, that Shoeing is but a partial Good.

IT has been ſaid already, that all Horſes, whoſe Feet are contracted round the hinder

hinder Part, or whoſe Cruſt is deep and ſtrong, are always more or leſs lame, when they have been ſhod and uſed any Time; and that from a Compreſſion on the Contents of the Foot.

And no Method of Shoeing whatſoever will prevent the Lameneſs of ſuch Feet; and yet no Man ever ſaw a Horſe (with this, or any other kind of Foot) lame, but by ſome Injury whilſt he remained unbroke, and running about in a State of Nature.

There are many Men, who can often diſtinguiſh this Kind of Foot, and pronounce with Certainty the Lameneſs thereof, even without ſeeing the Horſe move at all; as readily as other Men ſhall diſtinguiſh Gold from Silver, or Lead from Iron.

But becauſe all Men have not been attentive enough to make the ſame Diſcoveries, ſome thro' Ignorance, or Prejudice to their own Opinions, have aſſerted and maintained other Kinds of Lameneſs, which do not exiſt at all; and talk of Horſes being Cheſt-foundered, and ſhook in the Shoulders, when the Diſorder is in the Feet alone.

Wherefore know all Men by theſe Preſents, that whoſoever talks of Horſes being Cheſt-foundered, or ſhook in the Shoulders, is an ignorant Pretender to the Knowledge of this Animal, and is himſelf ſhaken in the Head.

Now to prove the Truth of this Doctrine, and that Shoeing is but a partial Good; take this ſame narrow-heeled, or ſtrong-footed Horſe (which, becauſe it is fair to the Eye, the Blackſmith perhaps calls a very good one) pare down the Cruſt as much as you can, cut the Toe off round and ſhort, and turn him out to Graſs bare-footed, he will become ſound in a Courſe of Time, if the Bones or the Cartilages of the Foot are not diſeaſed.

The true Cauſe of which is, that the Foot not being confined in a Shoe, the Weight of the Horſe expands the ſame; the Cruſt, and the Stricture of the coronary Ring, is relaxed by the Dews and Moiſture, and the Compreſſion on the Parts is removed.

And herein alone it is, that the unſkilful are impoſed upon by the Farrier, who (having

ing done ſomething to your Horſe, for what he calls a Lameneſs in the Shoulder, and ordered him to be turned to Graſs) vainly believes ſuch Soundneſs to be the Effect of his Remedy ; and you, for want of better Knowledge of the Animal, are perſuaded to believe the ſame.

Take the ſame Horſe, whoſe Feet by their open Figure and relaxed State are become ſound, confine them again in a Shoe, keep him at Houſe, in ſpite of all Art they will become contracted, and he lame again perhaps the firſt Time of Riding; eſpecially if the Weather be hot and dry, merely from the Compreſſion above-named.

Who now does not ſee the horrid Barbarities of Rowelling, Bliſtering, nay, even boring the Shoulders with a red-hot Iron, (under Pretence of curing a Lameneſs therein) committed on this moſt noble Animal, by the Obſtinacy, Pride, or Folly of Mankind.

Yet I would not be underſtood to mean, that there is no ſuch Thing as a Lameneſs in the Shoulder; becauſe the Muſcles and Ligaments thereof are liable to be ſtrained,

as well as other muſcular and ligamentous Parts.

But that no Man may ever after be miſtaken herein, I will lay down one unerring Rule, whereby he may diſtinguiſh the Reality of this Diſorder, without conſulting the Farrier at all; which is, that the Horſe, in this Circumſtance, always drags his Toe upon the Ground; for it is impoſſible that the Horſe can extend his Foot to go on, without extending alſo the Muſcles of the Shoulder, which Act of Extenſion he, to avoid Pain, or from Inability, does not chuſe to have performed.

It appears alſo, from the Nature of the Articulation of the humeral Bone with the Scapula, or blade Bone, that ſuch is capable of Diſlocation, either forward or backward; for my own Part, I have never known any Inſtance thereof, in all the various Kinds of Work that I have ſeen Horſes perform; yet there are many Farriers in this Kingdom, who pretend to have cured this Diſlocation, by the Means of a Pattenſhoe put on the Foot of the lame Leg; the Truth of which they would atteſt on Oath, perhaps, ſeal with their Blood.

Now

Now if this does ever happen, the Appearance of it will be ſo remarkable, that no Man can miſtake it. But this Pattenſhoe muſt of Neceſſity do Harm inſtead of Good; becauſe it will force the Head of the humeral Bone further from it's Articulation with the Scapula.

The proper Method of reducing all Diſlocations is by Extenſion, and counter Extenſion; but I am of Opinion, if a Diſlocation of this Joint was ever to happen, the Ligaments of the ſame would be ruptured alſo.

From the Oſſification of the Cartilages, contracted Form of the Feet, and ſubſequent Pain, the Muſcles of the Shoulder may perhaps ſometimes waſte away, and (as I take it) this is what is generally meant by the Word Cheſt-foundered, or ſhuck in the Shoulders; which miſtake ariſes from not underſtanding the Nature of Feet.

Now from the Pain occaſioned by a Spavin, or other Diſorders in the Joint of the Hock, the Muſcles of the Quarter will frequently waſte away alſo; but it will be equally abſurd in either of theſe Caſes to

ſay, that the Lameneſs of the Horſe is in the Shoulder, or in the Quarter.

From Blows alſo received on the Shoulder, the muſcular Parts may waſte away, in like Manner as in the human Species, where the Nerve has been affected; but this laſt is a very uncommon Caſe, and when it happens is very diſtinguiſhable; and for which, I believe, there is no Remedy.

To prove ſtill further, that Shoeing is but a partial Good.—When any other Kind of Foot is become ſhelly and broken, the Cruſt thin, or the Heels low, turn the Horſe out to Graſs without Shoes, raſp the Foot ſhort at the Toe, keep it conſtantly raſped as it grows, ſuch Foot will in a ſhort Time flouriſh again, and become juſt as it was in a natural State, when he was a Colt.

And here let it be remembered, that it is much to the Advantage of all Colts to keep their Toes ſhort; Mares alſo in Foal will by this Means carry their Load much eaſier.—Diſcretion being had thereunto, as in paring the human Nail, which, if cut too cloſe, will cauſe a temporary Soreneſs.

Never-

Nevertheleſs no Harm, except an immediate Soreneſs, which will ſoon go off, attends cutting the Toe of the Horſe even to the Quick, as ſhall be immediately ſhewn.

If you have a Horſe, whoſe Foot is fleſhy, or what is generally called pumiced, whoſe Sole is higher than the Cruſt, take him and cut him round at the Toe, till the Blood follows, and ſtands in Drops; turn him to Graſs bare-footed, he will in a ſhort Time make a new Shoot at the Coronet, the weak Cruſt will become by Degrees more ſolid, and the thin Sole more obdurate, the Heels, will get high and ſtrong, and behold, where you could not before well find a Place to drive a Nail, the whole Foot is now rendered tough and firm, will bear Hammering like a Piece of Board, will carry as flat a Shoe as any other Kind of Foot, and will continue ſo to do, if it be never pared or ſtopped. — Provided always, the interior Parts of the Foot have not been injured by Diſeaſe or Accident.

By the ſame Means, Horſes, who have had Corns on their Heels many Years, are cured with Certainty.

By the ſame Means, falſe Quarters are cured.

By the ſame Means Sandcracks are cured; but if you take three Parts of *Friar*'s Balſam, and one Part of *Aqua Fortis*, mix theſe, dip ſome Lint therein, apply to the Part and cover it with any unctuous Medicine ſpread on Tow, it will help to unite the divided Hoof ſooner.

Nor are theſe Effects at all to be wondered at; for by this cutting to the Quick, an entire new Hoof puſhes itſelf out; and as the Toe is kept cut, the freſh Shoots of the Foot are to be ſeen deſcending on the Hoof below the coronary Ring; and there is no Inconvenience at all attending this Operation, but a Soreneſs of the Part when firſt cut; nor does the Horſe want any Care, but to be turned out on ſoft Land, the Foot ſeldom requiring to be cut to the Quick more than once, but muſt be kept as ſhort as can be, till you want to uſe him.

For theſe Reaſons it is manifeſt enough, that all Horſes, when turned to Graſs for a Time,

Time, ſhould have their Shoes taken off, and their Toes kept raſped round and ſhort.

The Feet of Stallions are alſo beſt without Shoes, whether they are kept at Houſe or Abroad; the Cruſt at the Bottom of the Foot being occaſionally pared down, according to the Depth, and Strength, and Growth thereof.

Let any Man keep one Foot of a Stallion ſo managed, and the other in a Shoe, he will ſoon find a wide Difference between the two Feet.

Hence it will follow, that all Breeders of Horſes ſhould be well verſed in the Difference of Feet, the Laws of Nature ſeldom varying in this or other Reſpects.

And here occurs to me the wrong Judgment of the Grooms, in the indiſcriminate Cuſtom of Stopping and Greaſing all Sorts of Feet; for Greaſing and Stopping ſuch Feet, whoſe Cruſt is weak, and whoſe Sole is ſpongy, will render them more weak and more ſpongy; ſuch Feet cannot be kept too dry.

Nevertheleſs, it is neceſſary to anoint the coronary Ring of ſuch with ſome cooling Oil, Ointment, or mucilaginous Compoſition, to keep it pliant, and free from Contraction — Urine will alſo render the Cruſt of weak Feet tough, and help to conſolidate the Sole.

On the other Hand, ſtrong Feet cannot be kept too full of Oil, and for ſuch, ſoft Clay is the beſt Stopping, all Dung rendering the Parts more or leſs rotten.

CHAP. V.

Treats of various other Lameneſs.

LA FOSSE has given us various Accounts of fractured Bones in the Foot; for my own Part, I have never ſeen any ſuch Thing, but can eaſily give Credit to the Poſſibility thereof.

Yet I have ſeen many Inſtances of ſudden Lameneſs brought on Horſes when hunting, by a falſe Step, which Horſes have continued lame their whole Life-time; and which, upon Examination, I have always found

found to be owing to the Oſſification of the Cartilages of the Bones, and an Induration or Enlargement of the Ligaments belonging to the Joint of the Foot; the Bones themſelves being ſometimes waſted, ſometimes enlarged — and it is no uncommon Thing to meet a Horſe, whoſe Feet are not Fellows, the natural Form of the injured Foot being generally altered hereby— And nothing can contribute more to ſuch an Accident, than the unequal Preſſure of the Foot in our modern Concave Shoe.

The Stricture of a deep Cruſt, and narrow Form of the Foot with hard Riding, and much Uſe, will alſo produce an Oſſification of the Cartilages of the Joint of the Foot, from which a Stiffneſs in the Part always enſues.—There is alſo a Diſeaſe of the Joint, called *Anchyloſis*, by which is to be underſtood a total Loſs of Motion in ſuch Joint.

In every Joint there are Glands, the Uſe of which is to pour forth in Action a Mucus, that ſerves to lubricate the Heads of the Bones, all which, for the Sake of Motion, are covered with a Cartilage or Griſtle.

Now

Now when theſe Glands are inflamed by Motion, they grow occaſionally rigid, pour forth more ſparingly their Mucus, and at length become dry and indurated.—Hence I have been led to think, this Oſſification of the Cartilages is oftentimes no more than a ſecondary Diſorder, depending on the State of the Mucus.

That Inflammation attends the Glands, I have ſeen frequent Inſtances, where the Fetlock Joint of a hunted Stag has been cut aſunder in the Summer-time, when the Leaps have been ſtrong, and the Ground hard and dry; the Mucus thereof having been of a very ſanguine Colour.

Who now ſhall doubt, the ſame may happen to the Horſe, eſpecially when another Weight is added to his own?—Moreover, there are Inſtances, where the Mucus of the Joint in human Bodies has been ſo diſeaſed, either by Accident, or bad Habit of Body, as to corrode the cartilaginous Heads of the Bones.

The Fetlock Joint is liable to frequent Lameneſs, from Blows received thereon, whereby the Ligaments ſurrounding it become

come inflamed and rigid, and the outer Tegument or Skin is thickened or indurated.— It is liable alſo to Diſlocation.

Lameneſs alſo will enſue from Windgalls, Running Thruſhes, Splints, Ring-bone, Canker in the Foot, ſtraining the Tendons, and what is called a Letting-down, or Relaxation of the Sinew, and from broken Bones.

Now theſe which have been recited, are the only Kinds of Lameneſs, that I have ever been able to diſcover attending the Fore Part of the Horſe—Except ſuch as are occaſioned by the Criſis of a Fever, or by Injuries received from extraneous Bodies— And I have been the more particular in ſetting forth the Nature of ſome of theſe, that the Unſkilful may not be impoſed on by the Ignorance of Farriers, nor the Horſe puniſhed for an incurable Diſorder.

In the hinder Part of the Foot, Lameneſs is much leſs frequent than in the Fore Part, and leſs various.

A Diſlocation of the Hip, or Whirl-bone, happens very ſeldom, and whenever it does,

it proceeds from a Rupture of the round Ligament (occaſioned by ſome Violence) or an Elongation of the ſame, from a Diſeaſe of the Part; Inſtances of both which I have ſeen in a Bullock and a Horſe, as well as of Fractures of the Head of the Thigh Bone, and of the Os Ilium.

Now to diſtinguiſh with Certainty the Reality of theſe, it muſt be obſerved, that when the Bone is broke in either of theſe Caſes, the Animal will in a few Days begin to reſt upon that Leg a little, and gradually more and more, till the Bone conſolidates, and becomes united; but when the Ligament is ruptured, or elongated to a certain Degree, the Head of the Bone falls from the Socket, the Leg ſwings, the Animal cannot reſt upon it at all, and by continually bearing all the Weight upon the other Leg, he ſoon becomes lame of that alſo, and at laſt does not chuſe to ſtand at all.—Moreover, in the Caſe of Elongation or Rupture of the Ligament, the whole Limb becomes longer; and in the Caſe of a Fracture of the Thigh-bone, it becomes ſhorter; but in a Fracture of the Os Ilium, this Abbreviation may or may not happen, depending alone on the Nature or Manner of the Fracture.

But the common Lameneſs attending this Joint is occaſioned by the relaxed State of the Ligaments ſurrounding it, brought on by ſome Strain at firſt; and by Exerciſe continued on ſuch weak Part.—Which Lameneſs is eaſily diſtinguiſhed from a Lameneſs in the Stifle; becauſe the Horſe, in this latter Caſe, drags his Toe upon the Ground when put in Motion, but in the other he does not.

From a Sudden Strain, or Exerciſe continued on a weak Part, a Swelling will ariſe on the Hock, attended with Lameneſs.

From a ſudden Strain ſudden Swellings will ariſe in the Cavities on each Side the Hock, attended with great Pain.

Of Spavins there are two Sorts, one called the Bone Spavin, the other the Blood Spavin.

A Curb is a Swelling on the Joint of the hinder Leg below the Hock—All theſe are generally productive of Lameneſs.

Another Lameneſs there is, which, according to the Jockies ſtile, proceeds from Humours.

Now

Now moſt of the learned World, who have wrote on this Subject, have made themſelves merry with the Jockies and Farriers, for uſing the Word Humours, when the Horſe is ſuppoſed to have a crazy Conſtitution, or bad Habit of Body.

And yet herein the Learned and Unlearned both mean the ſame Thing, as appears from the Practice of the one, and Writing of the other—The Unlearned in this Caſe adminiſter Phyſick, and Piſſing Drinks, put in Rowels, and turn to Graſs; the Learned recommend Purging, and Alteratives, and Salt Marſhes.

But as all Words are arbitrary, and at the Will of the Impoſer, it ſeems to me of little Conſequence what Choice we make of Words, provided always, they are uſed to bear a determinate Meaning—So that for the Sake of Peace, Diſtinction, and Cuſtom, I am well content this good old Phraſe ſhould ſtand it's Ground unmoleſted.

There is Lameneſs then proceeding from Humours; that is to ſay, the Blood and Juices in ſome Conſtitutions are very viſcid, and not paſſing ſo readily thro' the various Canals

Canals of Circulation, Obſtructions do ariſe, by which the ſoft Parts are affected with Pain, and Lameneſs enſues ſometimes in one Part, ſometimes in another.

Pray, Why is not the Word *Humours* as proper here, as any other Word, if not applied to any other Purpoſe?

CHAP. VI.

Treats of the Management of theſe Kinds of Lameneſs which have been already recited.

NOW the Farriers, when the Cauſe of Lameneſs is not viſible to them, do moſt frequently aſſert, that it is in the Shoulder, and by Chance, that it is in the Foot.

When they allow this laſt to be the Caſe, their Method of acting is firſt to bliſter, and then fire the coronary Ring all round, at various Intervals of Space.

But bliſtering inflames, and firing contracts the coronary Ring, and renders it more rigid; the Effects of which ſeem to want no Annotations.

For

For deep or narrow Feet, which are always lame after ſome Uſe, keeping at Graſs is moſt beneficial; and perhaps, many Horſes with ſtrong, deep Feet, might ride beſt, if never ſhod at all, but raſped round at the Toe with Diſcretion.

From a Lameneſs ariſing from Compreſſion, *La Foſſe* has propoſed two Remedies; one is to draw the Sole, the other to bleed in the Foot; both which our Farriers (miſtaking his Meaning) abſurdly practice for Lameneſs ariſing from contracted Feet; neither of which can be of any Uſe in this Caſe, unleſs ſuch Practice could alter the Texture of the Cruſt, and Form of the Foot. But if I underſtand *La Foſſe* rightly, theſe Methods are propoſed to remove the Inflammation of the Parts, brought on by a ſudden Compreſſion of the coronary Bone upon the Nut Bone, from a falſe Step, and to prevent the Oſſification of the Cartilages of theſe Bones, and the Induration of the Ligaments.

For Sandcracks, Corns, falſe Quarters, and pumiced Feet, where there is no concomitant Diſeaſe or Injury, the Method of Cure has been already ſhewn.

When

When the Cartilages are oſſified, there is no Cure; — for an Anchyloſis, there is no Cure; — where the Bones of the Foot are enlarged or waſted, there is no Cure.

To remove the Inflammation of the Glands, and to prevent an Induration of the ligamentous Parts, and the outer Tegument of the Fetlock Joint, the Conſequence of repeated Violence, it is a good Cuſtom for all Sportſmen to cauſe theſe Joints of the Horſe, after a Day's Hunting, to be well fomented with Flannels dipped in warm Water, or a Decoction of ſome emollient Herbs; and when the Parts are dry and well rubbed, ſuch ſhould be filled with ſome cooling Oil or Ointment, (becauſe Punctures will occaſionally happen on the Part) and ſome warm Flannel Cloths be moderately bound thereon, for the enſuing Night.

For want of this, or ſome ſuch Method, Induration of the Ligaments and ſubſequent Lameneſs (as was before ſaid) often happens to this Joint.

To cure this, the Farrier bliſters and fires the Joint, by which Methods the Parts become more indurated, and they are as con-

contradictory to the Diſorder, as endeavouring to extinguiſh Fire, by pouring Spirits of Wine thereon. — For a Lameneſs of the Tendon he uſes the ſame Methods.

Now the Tendon is enveloped in a Sheath, whereon are ſituate many ſmall Glands, that are forced by the Action of ſuch Tendon to pour forth their Mucus, which ſerves as Oil to lubricate the ſame, and to keep it from growing dry and rigid, as otherwiſe it would do like any other Cord or String.

Between this Sheath and the Skin of the Leg, where nothing intervenes but a thin Membrane, what Hand can determine the Boundaries of theſe Bodies, whoſe Appearance, by the Heat of the Iron, is made undiſtinguiſhable to the Eye?

Mark now the Event.

If the Fire reaches no further than the Skin, no Advantage can accrue to the Tendon, but the Fibres of the Skin will become contracted, and leſs pliant;—if the Fire reaches this Sheath, ſome of its Glands are deſtroyed, and the Tendon becomes more

more or leſs rigid.—If the Tendon be burnt, the Conſequence will be ſtill worſe, and in either Caſe the Velocity of Motion will be impeded ; no Man, (I believe) remembering a Race-Horſe once fired, equal to what he was before.

In both theſe Caſes, where the Skin or Ligaments ſurrounding the Fetlock Joint, or the Tendon is thickened and indurated from repeated Violence, or Exerciſe continued on a weak or inflamed Part, the following Method may be uſed.

Turn your Horſe looſe in ſome open Building, let the injured Parts be fomented twice a Day with the Decoction of ſome emollient Herbs boiled in Water, ſuch as White Lily Roots, Mallows, Elder Leaves, and Flowers, Bay Leaves, or the like. The Parts, when dry, are to be filled with ſome cooling Oil, and ſome of the Fomentation is to be thickened with Oatmeal, to the Conſiſtence of a Pultis, and kept thereon.

When the Induration and Tenſion is gone off, a Cataplaſm may be applied twice a Day, compoſed of common Salt and the White of Eggs, mixed with a little Vinegar and

and Oatmeal, and the Parts bathed with cold Vinegar (Heat evaporating the ſubtle Spirit thereof) after the Uſe of which, for a Time, the Horſe ſhould be turned to Graſs, and indulged with proper Reſt.

With reſpect to Reſt, the Farrier has a great Advantage by Bliſtering and Firing, becauſe the Leg is ſo inflamed hereby, that it is impoſſible to ride the Horſe for a conſiderable Time after the Operation.—Hence, his Soundneſs is generally thought to be the Effect of Bliſtering and Firing; which ought, in Reality, to be imputed to the Reſt he has had.

But when any other Method has been uſed for this Purpoſe, and the Part looks fair to the Eye, the Rider mounts, his Horſe is lame again the firſt Day, and the Groom wiſely concludes, he will never ſtand ſound without being fired.

Now let every Man, who has ever ſtrained the Tendons of his Wriſt or Ancle, reflect on the Pain he has ſuffered from the leaſt Motion of the Parts; and how long a Time has been required, before he has been able to bear the Extenſion of ſuch Tendons,

Tendons, even when all Appearances have been fair. —Will not the Caſe be ſuch with the Horſe.

And here I cannot help cenſuring the Jockey, who, having his Horſe matched, and in his Exerciſe the Tendons are ſo inflamed, that he cannot be allowed to gallop, yet conſtantly takes him out Morning and Evening to give him walking Exerciſe.

But this walking Exerciſe can contribute little towards keeping him in Wind, or making him fit for the Race, yet ſtill helps to fatigue the Tendon. Whereas, if the Horſe was kept quiet, and proper Applications applied to the injured Part, it is very poſſible he might recover ſoon enough for his Purpoſe.—Therefore, when it is thought improper for him to gallop, it muſt be much better for him to lie quiet ſtill; and the moſt proper Applications I know of in this Caſe, are to bathe the Parts with cold Vinegar, to rub in ſome cooling Oil when it is dry, and to renew the Cataplaſm of Salt twice a Day; Salt externally uſed, being the greateſt Diſcutient I am acquainted with.

A high-

A high-heel'd Shoe will alſo be of Uſe in this Caſe, as it will help in ſome Meaſure to keep the Tendon relaxed. — And the Uſe of Spirits on tendinous Parts do Harm, becauſe they render the Fibres rigid.

Now I beg Leave to repeat what has been in Part ſaid already ; namely, that all Lameneſs in the Tendon of a Draught, Road, or Running Horſe, happens nineteen Times in Twenty from the unequal Preſſure of the Foot in our modern Concave Shoe, and from robbing the Tendon of its proper Point of Support, by paring the Frog. — Hunters indeed may occaſionally get a Lameneſs in the Tendon, from various Injuries and Violence received in their different Kinds of Work.

The Method of curing Windgalls, according to the preſent Mode, is various ; but before any Thing is ſaid touching this Practice, it is neceſſary to ſhew what they are.

From Strains, or Blows received on the tendinous or membranous Parts, the Juices of the Glands are poured forth, and become enveloped in a Cyſt, or Bag.

Its

Its Contents are ſimilar to the White of an Egg, and the Diſeaſe is correſpondent to what the Surgeons call a Ganglion on the human Wriſt.

Now ſome Farriers let out the Contents of this encyſted Tumour with a Knife or Lancet, which is always ſure to be filled again when the Wound is healed, after having been attended with much Pain. Others bliſter, which for a Time ſeems to have diſcharged this Swelling, but when the Horſe comes into Uſe it ſoon fills again.

Others fire upon the Part, by which the outer Tegument or Skin is rendered rigid and indurated; hence the Pain occaſioned by theſe Tumours is greater than it was before, and the Horſe is rendered fit for nothing but the Cart.

Now mark a ſhort eaſy Cure for this incurable Diſorder, by the unſkilful Management of which, Thouſands of good Horſes have been undone.

Throw the Horſe, make an oval Inciſion into the Skin, take off the ſame firſt, and after that the Bag and its Contents.—This

will ſoon get well with proper Dreſſings.—To be treated of in the Chapter of Wounds.

Dogs alſo are ſubject to this Diſorder on the Knee, for the Cure of which, Bliſtering and Firing are uſed; thus many a good Fox-hound has been ſpoiled, that has been of more Utility to the World than two Farriers.—Many of theſe laſt have I cut out with a Pair of Sciſſars leaving the Cure to be finiſhed by Virtue of the Dog's Tongue.

Splints will ſometimes occaſion Lameneſs, but if not, it is much better not to meddle with them at all; the Uſe of Bliſters on theſe does little more than inflame the Parts, and the Uſe of a hot Iron often rouſes a ſleeping Lion; the Bone of the whole Leg being occaſionally enlarged thereby.

I know of no better Method, when Splints occaſion Lameneſs, than to deſtroy them by a Cauſtick, which may be prepared and uſed in the following Manner.

Take of *Spaniſh* Flies powdered, half an Ounce, Oil of Origanum, Sublimate Corroſive, each one Drachm; ſome ſweet Oil, and

and nerve Ointment, or any other, enough to make it of a proper Conſiſtence; clip off the Hair, and apply ſome of this to the Part, repeating it occaſionally a little at a Time for ſeveral Days, till an Eſchar begins to ſeparate, keeping the Horſe's Head tied up all the while, leſt he gnaw it. — When this Eſchar appears, the Medicine is to be ſcraped off, and the Part oiled with ſome cooling Oil; after which nothing more remains to be done, but to turn the Horſe to Graſs, and keep the Part daily touched with Train Oil. — By theſe Means, various Eſchars will ſcale off one after another, till the Part becomes ſmooth and well.

From the Effect (which Mr. *Minors*, an eminent Surgeon in *Chancery-Lane*, told me) Spirit of Salt had on Venereal Nodes, I am inclined to believe it might be of Service in waſting Splints, perhaps Spavins alſo, but have not had an Opportunity of trying it.

Now every Farrier, and almoſt every Stable-keeper, has a Noſtrum for this Evil, which appears to be of ſome Cauſtick Quality, ſuch as Oil of Origanum, Solution of Mercury, Aqua Fortis, Oil of Vitriol, or the like, which ſometimes do Good, but

more frequently inflame the Part, without doing any Service, according to my Obſervation.

For a Letting-down, or Relaxation of the Sinew, Mr. *Ingram*, an eminent Surgeon in *Fenchurch Street*, has already obliged the World with a Remedy, which, he ſays, has been often uſed with Succeſs; this is to make a Whey with ſome Allum boiled in Milk, to foment the Part with the Whey, and to bind the Curds thereon by way of Cataplaſm; and after a few Days, Colcothar of Vitriol finely powder'd and mixed with White of Eggs, is to be applied as a Charge every Twenty-four Hours, and a ſmooth Bandage kept on the Part. — Now Oil in this, or any like Caſe muſt do Harm, becauſe it relaxes the Fibres of the Tendon, which are already too much relaxed.

When the Muſcles and Ligaments of the Shoulder are ſtrained, keep the Horſe tied up and free from Motion as much as you can; — Warmth, diſcutient Fomentations, or the frequent Uſe of Vinegar, will reſtore him to a ſound State; but the muſcular Parts generally recover much ſooner than the Ligamentous or Tendinous.

By

By Extenſion and Counter-extenſion, a Diſlocation of the Fetlock Joint may be reduced. — Vinegar and the ſalt Cataplaſm is to be uſed after the Reduction of the Bone, a Bandage may be applied round the Joint, and proper Reſt muſt be allowed. — Oil or Ointment is to be avoided here, becauſe the Fibres in theſe Caſes want to be braced, and not to be relaxed, as was before obſerved.

But if there be a great Diſtention or Inflammation of the Parts, ſuch ſhould be relaxed with Oil, before the Reduction of the Bone is attempted.

In the Caſe of a Diſlocation of the Hip or Whirlbone, where the Head of the Bone is fallen down from its Socket, either by Rupture, or Elongation of the round Ligament, I believe it is in vain to think of any Remedy. — But where the Ligaments ſurrounding the Joint are ſuppoſed to be relaxed, Bliſtering and Firing (which are always coupled together like two Hounds) are the Methods generally followed.

Now Bliſtering, if it be ever proper, is in this Caſe likely to be of Uſe, by inflam-

ing the Parts, and giving a new and increaſed Heat to the flaccid and relaxed Fibres, which may be occaſionally repeated. Warm ſtrengthening Charges ſhould be applied afterwards, and proper Reſt given; —but to Vinegar alone, I would rather truſt, than all other Applications.—And all the Good Firing can effect, on this, or any other Occaſion, is, that by contracting the Fibres of the Skin, the relaxed Fibres of ſome other adjacent Part may become more ſtrictly embraced; which cannot happen in the preſent Caſe, becauſe there are ſtrong Muſcles intervening between the Skin and the Ligaments; nor do I think that Firing is of any Uſe in any Kind of Lameneſs whatſoever.

For the ſame Reaſon, when a Lameneſs happens in the Stifle, I have found Bliſtering the moſt immediate and effectual Remedy. —But on this Occaſion, a broad Piece of Cloth ſhould be kept on the adjacent Part of the Flank of the Horſe, to prevent the Inflammation, which would be otherwiſe produced by ſuch Bliſtering.

By repeated Bliſtering, a Curb is eaſily cured, if taken in Time.

When

When a Lameneſs happens in the Joint of the Hock, if the ſame be much enlarged, the ligamentous Parts, together with the Glands and Cartilages, are in all Probability affected. — Here again the Cuſtom is to bliſter and fire, the Effect of which on inflamed Parts, I think, need not be repeated.

Some warm diſcutient Fomentation, or Vinegar, is to be uſed; the Part filled with Oil, and the ſalt Cataplaſm is to be applied twice a Day for this Diſorder.

In this, and ſuch other inflammatory Caſes, cooling Medicines ſhould be given inwardly; frequent Bleeding is neceſſary, and the nearer the Blood is let out from the inflamed Part, ſo much more immediate will the Derivation be therefrom.

But this Diſorder is often incurable, becauſe the Heads of the Bones are in this Caſe often enlarged, even when the Cartilages are not oſſified.

When ſudden Swellings ariſe in the Cavities on each Side the Hock, repeated Bleed-

ing is neceſſary; the Part is to be bathed frequently with cold Vinegar, the ſalt Cataplaſm is to be uſed, and ſuch a Bandage with Bolſters on each Side applied, as will moſt effectually compreſs theſe Swellings; ſo will they diſappear, and the Horſe become ſound.

For a Lameneſs proceeding from what is called Humours, after Bleeding and proper Purgation, the Cure is to be attempted by ſuch Medicines, as will moſt effectually produce an Alteration in the Blood and Juices; of all which Kind of Medicines I have found Salt Petre to be moſt effectual, when given daily, and continued for a Time; which may be done without any Interruption of Exerciſe, if there be no other Cauſe to prevent the ſame.

For a Canker in the Foot; — Blue Vitriol powdered, and Bole Armeniac, or Vinegar added to the ſame, will generally be found a Remedy. — If the Caſe be obſtinate, a few Drops of Aqua Fortis may be mixed therewith.

Running Thruſhes will be cured with Lint

Lint dipped in ſtrong blue Vitriol-water thruſt lightly into the Part; but this Diſcharge, once diverted from its uſual Channel, ſome more noble Part may perhaps be affected, or Blindneſs enſue. -- Wherefore, when this is attempted, the Horſe ſhould be immediately purged two or three Times, and go through a long Courſe of the Salt Petre Drink.

The Blood Spavin is a preternatural Expanſion of the Veſſel paſſing over the Hock; now the general Method of treating this Diſorder, is to make a Ligature round the Vein, above and below the Swelling, to prevent future Circulation; after which, Bliſtering is uſually applied to the Swelling. — But I think it a more certain Cure after the Ligatures are made, either to make an Inciſion on the Skin, and diſſect the Vein, or to ſcarify the ſwelled Part with a Knife longitudinally, and force out the Blood, after which it is to be dreſſed according to the Methods that will be directed for Wounds in general.

As to Ring-bones, and Bone-ſpavins, I never yet ſaw any Method of Cure that

may be relied on as effectual—the Horſe being as often lame, after all Methods uſed, as he was before, even when the Appearance of the Diſorder has been deſtroyed, according to the beſt of my Obſervation.

A TREA-

A

TREATISE, &c.

PART II.

CHAP. I.

Treats of Wounds in General.

WITH reſpect to the Treatment of Wounds of the Feet by Puncture, the Sieur *La Foſſe* has laid down ſome Rules, which appear to be very accurate, and anatomically true;—for which Reaſon, I ſhall only take Notice of a few Particulars relative to the Foot that ſeem to have eſcaped his Notice, and may be worth remarking.

In

Let it be laid down as a general Rule, that whatever Wound may happen to the coronary Ring, or the cellular ſpongy Part of the Heel, whether by Puncture, Tread, Inciſion, Laceration, or other Accident, no Medicine of an unctuous Nature (except in the Caſe of a Sand-crack) is to be applied to the Part, ſuch Applications always producing fungous, or ſpongy Fleſh, which occaſions much Pain and Inconvenience to the Horſe, as well as ſome Trouble to get rid of.

Now on theſe Occaſions, Lint dipped in the Mixture of *Aqua Fortis*, and *Friars Balſam*, as before directed for a Sand-crack, bound on the Part, and renewed every Day, will ſoon corrugate the ſame, and in a few Days produce a Cure.

By the Uſe of unctuous Medicines, and for Want of proper Care, Matter is often lodged in Wounds of the Foot, which occaſionally produces a fiſtulous Cavity, by our Farriers called a Quittor.

When it is attended with much large ſpongy Fleſh widely ſurrounding the Part, Eſcharotic Medicines are to be uſed, ſuch

as

as the *Aqua Fortis* Mixture, which may occaſionally be made ſtronger.

The following Mixture will alſo be uſeful on this, or any other Caſe of the like fungous Nature.—Take of Sublimate Corroſive two Drachms, Spirit of Wine four Ounces, Aqua Fortis twenty Drops; dip a Feather in this, and touch the Part, ſo will an Eſchar be produced, which when ſcaled off, the Part is to be touched again, and this Method to be repeated till the ſpongy Fleſh is deſtroyed, and the ſame becomes healed.

But in reſpect to the Quittor, a fiſtulous Cavity may ſtill remain in the Foot, when this ſpongy Fleſh is quite deſtroyed; and I know no Method of curing ſuch Cavity, but by Inciſion, or laying it open to the Bottom.

And yet, perhaps, it may be very eaſy; for I am told by ſome of the Inhabitants of *Hampton* in *Middleſex* (Men of Veracity) that they have a Horſe Doctor there, who cures many Horſes of this fiſtulous Cavity in the Foot, with once or twice dreſſing,

and

and ſends them to work immediately after being dreſſed. They ſay, that he ſometimes, tho' ſeldom, miſſes curing this Diſorder, which may very reaſonably happen, where this fiſtulous Cavity has been of long Standing, and a Part of ſome Bone is become carious or rotten.

The Medicine he uſes is a liquid Preparation, which he pours into the Cavity, and which he will not be prevailed on to diſcover to any Man.—I have ſeen an Inſtance of a Horſe cured by this Man, where the Cavity was immediately corrugated, and cloſed up with one Dreſſing.—He alſo cures fiſtulous Sinuſes on the Wither and the Neck (as I have been told) by the ſame Means;—a Matter highly worthy the Attention of the learned World.

With reſpect to ſhallow Punctures in the Bottom of the Foot, by Shoeing, or other Accidents, the Application of Salt and White of Eggs, with an Aperture made on the Part, will effect a Cure, if applied ſoon; which I impute to it's diſcutient Quality; the Inflammation and it's Conſequences being removed hereby.—And yet I would no more

more undertake to ſay it would always have the ſame Effect, even in a ſhallow Puncture of the Foot, than a ſkilful Surgeon would promiſe to cure the moſt ſimple Wound, which the moſt experienced Men know they cannot always effect, from Conſtitution and other Contingencies.

There is one Conſequence attending a Puncture in the Foot by Shoeing, left (I think) unnoticed by the Sieur *La Foſſe*, which is a Burſting of the coronary Ring.

Now when this happens, there is Matter confined between the Hoof and the Bone of the Foot; the Membranes are rotten, and, perhaps, a Part of the Bone alſo; the Hoof in ſuch Part ſeparating from the Bone, and ſetting hollow thereon.

The Method of Cure, is to cut away the whole Subſtance of the Hoof, ſo far as it is diſeaſed; by which Means the carious Part of the Bone will have Room to exfoliate, and the Matter to be diſcharged; and the proper Dreſſing for this, is Lint dipped in the Mixture of Aqua Fortis, and Friars Balſam—to prevent the Increaſe of fungous Fleſh—Roman Vitriol and Bole Armeniac, powdered

powdered and ſtrewed thereon, will alſo prevent the Growth of fungous Fleſh, and is conducive to the Healing of Wounds of all Kinds, in this Species.

With reſpect to the Treatment of Wounds in general, there ſeems but little Skill required, eſpecially where the Habit of Body is good, the Orifice of the Wound depending, and there is Room ſufficient for the Matter to be diſcharged; and here may be laid down the proper Method of treating Wounds in general.

If an arterial Blood-veſſel be wounded, the Bleeding will be ſtopped, by making a Ligature with a Needle and Thread round the End of the ſame.

If the Hæmorrhage or Bleeding be ſmall, Lint dipped in Flour, blue Vitriol Water, or even Oil of Vitriol (if Occaſion be) will generally have the deſired Effect—over this a Digeſtive ſpread on Tow is to be applied, and the whole covered with a Poultice of Bread and Milk.

After two Days this Dreſſing may come off; the Part is to be fomented daily with ſome

ſome warm Fomentation, the Digeſtive alſo and the Poultice is to be continued, till the Matter appears to be well digeſted, and the Fleſh about the Wound begins to look of a red and florid Colour—the Digeſtive may be prepared in the Manner following.

Take of Linimentum Arcæi one Ounce, Oil of Turpentine two Drachms, melt together.

Warm Fomentations are thus made.

Take of Sage, Lavender, Roſemary, Wormwood, Centaury, Chamomile Flowers, or any of theſe, boil in Water and ſtrain the Liquor for Uſe.

When the Fleſh about the Wound begins to look red, nothing more is required than gradually to heal the ſame; the Fomentation and Digeſtive are to be laid aſide, and inſtead thereof, Lint dipped in Water, ſtrongly impregnated with blue Vitriol, to keep down the fungous Fleſh, is to be applied, and covered with a Medicine, called Unguentum Deſiccativum Rubrum, or *Turner*'s Cerate.

If the blue Water ſhould not be ſufficient to keep down the ſpongy Fleſh, ſome Drops of Aqua Fortis may be added thereto, or the ſame may be ſprinkled with red Precipitate, and covered with a Pledget of the above Ointment or Cerate; or, inſtead of this Method, take of blue Vitriol Powder one Part, of Bole Armeniac four Parts; this is to be ſtrewed lightly on the Wound, and the ſame covered with a Poultice; the Quantity of the Vitriol Powder may be occaſionally increaſed, its Uſe being to keep down the growing ſpongy Fleſh.

Now the Uſe of ſome ſuch Medicine or Poultice, continued even till the Wound is healed, is much neater, and more eligible than the common Method, and perhaps a better Cure; for by Means of theſe ſome Diſcharge of Matter is ſtill promoted, even till the Wound be well—whereas, according to the common Method of healing Wounds, ſome Waſh, or Powder of an eſcharotick Quality is generally applied to the Part; hence the Wound is immediately dried up, with an Eſchar thereon, which ſcales off by

Degrees,

Degrees, but by ſuch immediate drying up, an indurated Swelling often remains on the Part, more eſpecially if it be ſituated near a Joint.

When Wounds happen to the Tendon of a Horſe, great Pain and Inflammation, perhaps a Fever enſues.

I once ſaw an Inſtance, where the flexor Tendon, paſſing along the Paſtern was wounded by the Point of a ſharp Flint (as it was ſuppoſed) in Hunting.

A Farrier was ſent for, who, not diſcovering this ſmall punctured Wound declared the Horſe to be lame in the Shoulder (as they generally do upon all Occaſions) —and to cure this Shoulder Lameneſs, he put a patten Shoe on the Foot of the ſound Leg, that the Horſe might be obliged to ſtand upon the lame one; which gave him ſo much Pain by ſtretching the wounded Fibres that he did not chuſe to ſtand at all.

After ſome few Days, I was deſired by an Acquaintance to look at the Horſe; upon Examination I found the true Cauſe; the

Part

Part was dreſſed with a Medicine of an agglutinating Quality, namely, Lint dipped in equal Parts of the Balſam and Oil of Turpentine; this was covered with the Digeſtive, and a Poultice applied over the whole; with ſome Difficulty I perſuaded the Doctor to take the Patten Shoe from the Foot of the ſound Leg, and to put it on that of the lame one; by theſe Means the Horſe became well, and ſound as ever; for the extreme Ends of divided Tendons, if brought into Contact, will in a reaſonable Time unite again as well as divided Bones.

And here it is to be obſerved, that all tenting of Wounds is a pernicious Practice, by the Uſe of which Matter is confined, Tendons, Ligaments, and Cartilages are injured, and Bones are rendered carious or rotten; beſides other Inconveniences of Pain, Inflammation, and Fever conſequential thereto.

In all Wounds, where the Matter lies lower than the Orifice of the Wound, and cannot flow out, it produces fiſtulous Cavities in the Parts—Now it is always neceſſary to go to the Bottom of ſuch (where the Parts

Parts will admit of Inciſion) otherwiſe no Cure can be expected.

This is the Caſe with reſpect to what is called Pole-evil in the Neck, and Fiſtula on the Wither, both which would be eaſily cured, if cut to the Bottom, obſerving carefully to diſtinguiſh between theſe Cavities, and the Interſtices or Diviſions of the Muſcles, and not to wound the cervical Ligament.

The proper Method of treating theſe Evils after the neceſſary Inciſions are made, and the Bleeding is ſtopped, is to fill the Parts with dry Lint, and the Wound to be treated in every Reſpect according to the general Rules before laid down.

Now the Farriers in this Caſe, after making the Inciſions, always begin at the wrong End; that is to ſay, they make uſe of eſcharotic Applications at the very firſt Dreſſing; hence a ſufficient Quantity of granulated Fleſh not being ſuffered to increaſe, the Parts when well, become indented, with an unequal Surface, and much Loſs of Subſtance.

In

In all deep Wounds of the muſcular Parts, cauſed by Puncture, Stabbing, or Staking, the Orifice of the Wound ſhould be made wider as ſoon as can be; for ſuch Wounds do not diſcharge a laudable Pus or Matter, by Means of which, the Inflammation attending them would be carried off, but a bloody Ichor flows therefrom, and the Wound is ever ready to become cloſed again, if the Orifice thereof be the moſt narrow.

When Horſes are ſtaked in any Part, the common Cuſtom is to thruſt a Candle up the Wound, as far as can be, and to keep it confined therein, by which Means Numbers are killed; and if any happen to live, it is entirely owing to the Conſtitution of the Horſe, the Wideneſs of the Orifice of the Wound, and its depending State; for if the Matter in this Caſe be confined, or not well digeſted, Inflammation, Tenſion, Gangrene, Fever, and Death will certainly enſue.

Now the proper Method of acting in this Caſe, is to make a crucial Inciſion in the Orifice of the Wound in this Manner +, ſufficiently

ſufficiently wide for the Matter to be diſcharged, according the Nature of the Parts, and the Situation of the Wound.

The Lips of this inciſed Wound are to be filled with Lint, thruſt gently between them, to prevent their uniting again; and if any conſiderable Effuſion of Blood attend this Inciſion, it will be ſtopped by ſuch Methods as have been before directed for this Purpoſe, and by various others—this is to be covered with the Digeſtive before-named, and a Poultice applied over the whole—this Dreſſing is to remain on the Part two Days, after which ſuch Methods are to be uſed as directed for Wounds in general.

When ſhallow Punctures happen on the Joints or Limbs from Thorns, Stubs, or other ſharp Bodies, if ſuch reach the ligamentous or tendinous Parts, the ſmall Diſcharge flowing therefrom, once ſtopped by a Medicine of a repelling or diſcutient Quality, will generally produce great Inflammation, with other bad Symptoms, and much Matter may be formed—and yet I have known ſeveral Inſtances of ſuch Punctures, both in the Equine and Human Species, cured

cured by Fomentation, and the Uſe of Salt. —But in all ſuch Kinds of Punctures, emollient Fomentations, ſome cooling Oil or Ointment, rubbed in well, with a Poultice of Bread and Milk kept on the Part, are the proper Methods of Cure.

In lacerated Wounds of the Skin or Muſcles, a Needle and Thread may be uſed to unite the divided Parts (according to the Depth and Nature of the Wound) leaving proper Intervals of Space between each Stitch for the Matter to flow out; but if great Inflammation enſue, and much Matter be produced, and lodged in the Part, it is neceſſary to cut away the Stitches, and the Inflammation will ceaſe; but theſe will generally be cured with the Application of Lint dipped in Friars Balſam.

Inciſed Wounds will alſo be cured (in general) by the ſame Means.

In Gun-ſhot Wounds, the Methods before directed will take Place, all foreign Bodies being firſt extracted, if it can be done.

If any Induration remain on any Part when

when the Inflammation is gone off, whether it be the Effect of drying up a Wound too faſt, or the Conſequence of a Puncture by a Thorn, or other Accident, the Skin of the Part may be ſcarified longitudinally with a ſharp Knife at proper Intervals, which is to be dreſſed according to the general Method directed for Wounds.

CHAP. II.

Treats of various other Incidents to which the Horſe is liable.

IT frequently happens, for want of proper Care in Bleeding at the Neck, or afterwards, that a Swelling falls on the Part, attended with many bad Symptoms; ſometimes with Gangrene, and ſubſequent Death.

Now this is generally a long Time in hand, yet may as generally be cured in a few Days by the following Means.

As ſoon as you perceive this Evil, the Uſe of warm Fomentation, cooling Ointment,

and a Poultice of Bread and Milk, will very probably remove the ſame.

But if that does not ſucceed, a Rowel is to be put into the Skin, in the Middle of the Horſe's Boſom, and with a Tobacco-pipe, or any other Tube, blow up the Skin quite to the Part affected; ſo will an immediate Derivation be made therefrom as ſoon as the Rowel runs.

If any Swelling or Induration ſtill remains on the Neck, it will now be removed by Poultice and Fomentation, or the following Mixture.

Take of Spirit of Wine 4 Ounces, Camphire and Bole powdered, each 1 Drachm, Aqua Fortis 20 Drops, dip ſome Lint or Tow in ſome of this, apply to the Part, and bind over it ſome thick Cloaths, without which, this Application is of no Uſe on any Occaſion.

When Swellings happen on any Part of the Back or Wither, this laſt Medicine is of more Efficacy than any other I am acquainted with—for it will in a few Days diſſipate ſuch Swelling entirely, or bring it to

to Matter; and what is particular, when Matter is produced, the Swelling itſelf is of much leſs Magnitude than it would be, by any other Application productive of Matter.

This may be uſed twice a Day, rubbing ſome of it upon the Swelling, and wetting ſome Lint or Tow therewith, to be bound on the Part.

But if Matter be formed in this Caſe, as ſoon as you perceive it to fluctuate under the Finger, it is to be let out with a Knife —ſome Lint dipped in this Mixture, and applied to the Part once or Twice a Day, will cure the ſame, without any Digeſtive or other Means. It will alſo cure a Rawneſs on the Back, or other Part, if the fungous Fleſh be not grown too high.

And here let it be remembered, that whenever there is Occaſion to let out Matter, an oval Inciſion is to be made, and a Piece of the Skin to be taken entirely out, by which means the Matter is more readily diſcharged in the Courſe of the Cure, and the Wound cannot cloſe up again till well.

Encyſted Tumours will alſo happen from Bruiſes by the Saddle on various Parts of the Back.—Which are to be cured like other encyſted Tumours, by taking out the Bag and its Contents.

If in taking out any encyſted Tumour the Bag ſhould be wounded, and its Contents let out, which may happen to any Artiſt, Care ſhould be taken to deſtroy the Bag as much as may be with the Knife—which is to be dreſſed with the Digeſtive and Poultice; and when the Wound appears red and florid, according to the general Method before directed.

When a Canker happens to the Tongue of the Horſe, take of Oil of Turpentine and Oil of Vitriol equal Quantities; touch the ſore Part with a Rag tied on a Stick, and dipped herein; it will cure the ſame, repeated at proper Intervals.

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TREATISE, &c.

PART III.

CHAP. I.

Treats of Diſeaſes.

WITH reſpect to the various Diſeaſes of Horſes, I think there are ſome not rightly underſtood, as well as various kinds of Lameneſs — and from the Attention I have paid thereto, and the ſubſequent Events, I believe I ſhall be able to ſhew, that all the learned Authors, who have wrote on this Subject, have been as much miſtaken in the Nature and Cure of ſome of theſe, as the Farriers have been with reſpect to ſome kinds of Lameneſs. — Which Authors have alſo made many uſeleſs Diſtinctions of Diſeaſes, that tend

only to perplex the Reader, by multiplying the Number, and which perhaps in Reality do not exiſt at all.

In the Year 1750, I think it was, that the Diſtemper amongſt the Horſes (as it is called) was more univerſal than at any other Time.

Various were the Symptoms, and different the Degrees of Illneſs amongſt different Horſes. Some had a Diſcharge of Matter from their Eyes, Noſe, and Mouth, others had none; but in all there were great Tokens of Inflammation, attended with a Fever, and violent Cough.

I had at that Time in *London* a favourite Horſe, that was ſeized, amongſt a Number of others at a Livery Stable, with this Diſtemper; he had no Diſcharge of any kind, but a dry Cough, and violent Fever, was very dejected, would touch nothing, and was more likely, as I thought, to die, than to live.

I was very anxious about the Welfare of my Horſe, and having never ſeen any Thing like this kind of Illneſs before, I adviſed with ſuch People, as I thought had moſt Right

Right to underſtand the Nature of it—from whom I received very little Satisfaction, all being at a Loſs in what manner to act.

So moſt of thoſe Horſes, which had a plentiful Diſcharge of Matter from the Noſe, *&c.* lived, and where ſuch Diſcharge did not happen, nor a critical Abſceſs fall on ſome Part, moſt of them in *London* died. —My Horſe continued in *Statu quo* two or three Days; and I was ſtill over perſuaded not to meddle with him, but to wait in Expectation of what Nature might do, by promoting ſome Diſcharge, which yet did not happen. — In this Dilemma I viſited ſeveral Horſes juſt dead with this Diſtemper, who had no Diſcharge from the Noſe, *&c.* in Hopes of diſcovering the Cauſe of their Death, and finding a Remedy. — On many of theſe I made ſeveral Inciſions in the Skin, on various Parts of the Body; and wherever an Inciſion was made, I found in all of them a Quantity of extravaſated Serum, lodged between the Skin and the Membranes.

I was no longer in Doubt what was to be done, but immediately ordered him to be bled, and ſeveral Rowels were put into

the Horſe, to the Number of Six or Eight —which the By-ſtanders ſaid would ſoon mortify, and the poor Horſe was condemned to die.

But behold, in about thirty Hours he held up his Head, began to look chearful, and to eat his Meat; and, in another Day, became as apparently well, as ever he was in his Life.

And yet, after all this Diſcharge, when the Rowels were taken out, and he had been twice purged, a critical Swelling ſoon after fell into one Leg and Thigh, which will ſerve to ſhew, how greatly the Blood and Juices are ſometimes vitiated with this Diſeaſe.

Now, to the beſt of my Remembrance, there is no Knowledge falls to any Man's Share in any Science, Phyſical or other, but what is acquired by Experience and Reflection.

Upon Reflection then of the Succeſs of theſe Rowels on my own Horſe, I began to think, that the Uſe of them, even on Horſes that had a Diſcharge at the Noſe, might be very conducive and aſſiſtant to the

the Cure, where Nature, as I thought, plainly indicated the Way, in endeavouring to throw off the Diſeaſe by ſuch Diſcharge —and by Nature alone, as I have been told, the Phyſician ſhould always be guided. — On trying the Effect of Rowels upon Horſes who had a Diſcharge at the Noſe, I found my Expectations anſwered, and they got over it much ſooner than thoſe which had no ſuch Aſſiſtance.

From the Good diſcovered of promoting Secretions of one kind, I conſidered it might be ſtill better, if other Secretions could be promoted alſo at the ſame Time, which would help to cool the inflamed Blood, as well as to unload the Veſſels, and conſequently abate the Fever.

For which End, when this Diſtemper viſits my Horſe in any Shape, if the Symptoms are urgent or dangerous, I treat him in the following manner.

Firſt, I order him to be bled, the Excrement to be taken from his Body with an oil'd Arm, half a Dozen Setons to be put in various Parts, where the Skin is looſe, and four Ounces of Salt Petre diſſolved in warm

Water, for one Doſe; to be given three Times a Day; and theſe Methods I have never known to fail in any kind of Fever.

Now the Learned may perhaps object, that theſe different Secretions, ſet on Foot at the ſame Time, will prevent the Operation of each other. To which I ſhall only anſwer, that all human Speculation is vain, and comes ever in the Rear of ſucceſsful Facts.

Moreover, the learned Theoriſts have given mighty Cautions againſt the Uſe of Rowels in feveriſh Diſorders, and talk of the Danger of Mortifications attending them, when in Reality there needs no ſuch Fear.

But allowing it to happen by Chance, it could not be deemed a ſufficient Reaſon againſt the Univerſality of the Practice, any more than it would be againſt the Uſe of Bliſters on the human Body; becauſe ſome Men in a Fever have died with a Mortification on the bliſtered Part, which by Chance alſo has happened.

Now in this Caſe the Uſe of Setons is moſt preferable, becauſe they are attended with leſs Inflammation, and run ſooner; but

but if any ſuch Symptom as a Gangrene ſhould appear, on this or any other Occaſion, warm Fomentations, with ſome Spirits of Wine added at the Time of uſing it, and a Poultice made with Oatmeal, Cummin Seed, and the Grounds of ſtrong Beer, to be kept on the Part, are the proper Remedies.

Since the Year 1750, this Diſeaſe has viſited by Turns each Stud and Stable, has fallen on Horſes of all Ages, at various Seaſons of the Year, and in different Shapes; wherever it comes I believe none eſcape; and when it falls on ſucking Foals, they are generally ſtunted and ſpoiled.

I happened laſt ſummer to be at the Houſe of an Acquaintance, who had a large Stud of Mares and Colts, of various Ages, ill with this Diſtemper.

They were attacked in various Forms, ſome had a Diſcharge from the Eyes, Noſe and Mouth, ſome had Swellings fell on the Udder, ſome on the Shoulder, others on the Side of the Jaws, under the Jaw, and on other Parts.

As they fell ill they were taken to Houſe; and

and I ſtaid at this Place ſeveral Weeks, to try what Methods of Treatment might be of moſt Service to the Animal; and to make ſuch Obſervations thereon, as might contribute to future Uſe.

Now ſuch as had a Diſcharge from the Noſe, *&c.* were bled, filled with Setons, and the Salt Petre Drink given them according to their Age, by which Means they ſoon became well, except the ſucking Foals.

When critical Swellings appeared, I made a large oval Inciſion on the Part, and let out large Quantities of Matter.

The Surgeons generally eſteem a critical Abſceſs in ſuch Caſe to be a certain Cure; and tho' I am very certain, that I did not open one Swelling, till it was fit for the Operation, and which contained at the Time laudable Matter, yet ſo much is the Blood ſometimes vitiated with this Diſorder, that after the Wound is well, many of them had other critical Swellings fell on other Parts, again and again, which when ripe were all opened, and by which Means at length they alſo became well.

Others (as ſoon as ever the Swelling appeared on any Part) were bled, and ſeveral Setons put in the Skin, ſome on the depending Part of the Swelling, and the Salt Petre Drink was given, thinking by theſe Evacuations to divert the febrile Matter, and effect a Cure — But after a Trial of many Days, I found this Method of no Uſe, the Swelling all this Time neither advancing or receding.

Upon which the Setons were taken out, the Salt Petre left off, and in a few Days the Swelling came to good Matter, by the Diſcharge of which the Horſe got well in due Courſe of Time.

But for the ſucking Foals no Remedy availed, the Diſeaſe baffling all Attempts of Art and Nature.

If you bled them, a Swelling perhaps came on the Part, and would remain indurated for ſeveral Months, which was neither to be diſſipated, or brought to Matter; the ſame kind of Indurations would alſo fall on other Parts.

If Matter was formed, and let out, freſh Swellings ſucceeded each other, or ſome other

other Symptoms of the Diſeaſe remained for ſeveral Months, even till they were weaned — The Cauſe of which I think is very evident.

Now the Mare that gives Suck is apparently very little affected with this Diſeaſe, which, in all Probability, proceeds from the conſtant Secretion of her Milk, by means of which her Veſſels are ſtill kept emptied, and herſelf free from any Symptoms of a Fever, and yet her Blood may be much vitiated and corrupted.

I have ſeen ſeveral Foals at the Mare's Foot, whoſe Blood has been ſo poor, as to occaſion their Legs to ſwell, even when they have been running about in the Field; which ſame Colt, if continued to have ſucked much longer, muſt inevitably have died. — And yet when taken from the Mare and weaned, have been ſoon recovered by the ſame Means, that before were found ineffectual. — From which Inſtances I am ready to conclude, this long continued Illneſs of the Foal, is entirely owing to the Depravity of the Mare's Milk.

Now if we are lucky enough to diſcover the

the Cauſe, it is twenty to one but we find a Remedy.

And in order to this, it will be neceſſary to think of altering the Mare's Habit of Body.—For which Purpoſe I know of no better Remedy than Salt Petre, two Ounces of which given to the Mare Night and Morning will, I am inclined to think, produce the deſired Effect—for the Colt one Ounce of the ſame, given twice a Day, may perhaps be ſufficient. The Milk of the Mare ſhould alſo be drawn from her, and the Foal is to be ſupported with Cow's Milk, mixed with Flour, till the Mare's be thought good and wholeſome—or weaned.

And here let it be remembered, that Salt Petre given, eſpecially in large Quantities, to Horſes eating Graſs, will often occaſion Gripes or Cholick—But whenever any Horſe ſhall appear to be affected with cholicky Pains, by taking Salt Petre, Water-gruel given with it, will, by its Smoothneſs, blunt the acid Quality thereof.

For ſuch as are older, Bleeding at firſt, Setons put in the Skin, and the Uſe of Salt Petre, given two or three Times a Day, according

cording to their different Age and Symptoms, and continued for a Time, will anſwer the Purpoſe, as was ſaid before.

When a Swelling appears on any Part, all Means uſed to divert it are wrong, and ineffectual, but a Poultice of Bread and Milk ſhould be applied to the Part to forward the Matter, which when ripe, and not before, is to be let out by an oval Inciſion of the Skin; and to prevent a future Return of ſuch Swelling, on the ſame, or any other Part, a Rowel is to be put into the Wound before it cloſes up; and continued therein for a Time, with the daily Uſe of Salt Petre to correct the vitiated Blood.

By theſe Means, I am inclined to think, all the Symptoms attending this Diſeaſe in every Age will be removed, and its deſtructive Conſequences prevented.

Now amongſt critical Swellings, I think the Strangles may juſtly be reckoned, the Situation of which Diſorder is under the Jaw, whence I ſuppoſe it may derive its Name.

In all theſe Caſes Horſes ſhould be kept warm, and by no means go out of the Stable whilſt

whilſt Matter is forming; this alſo is to be treated after the general Method laid down for other Abſceſſes—and before it cloſes up, a Rowel ſhould be put into the Wound, and continued with the daily Uſe of Salt Petre as an Alterative. — For this alſo is the Criſis of a Fever, tho' it happens to all Colts ſooner or later, and falls on the ſame Part.

And here I cannot help relating an Inſtance of the moſt groſs Ignorance, which I once ſaw committed by a Farrier of mighty Fame. — A Horſe had been ill with the Diſtemper, and Nature had been kind enough to form a critical Swelling on the Back, in which there was Matter ripe and fit to let out — The Doctor came, but inſtead of letting it out, he made uſe of a diſcutient Fomentation, by means of which, if the Matter could have been repelled, and again taken into the Circulation, the Animal muſt have died a moſt wretched Death.

And here is a proper Time to ſhew, that the learned Authors, who have wrote on this Subject, have been much miſtaken with reſpect to the Nature of ſome Diſeaſes.

For Inſtance, the Mad-ſtaggers is treated by

by all Writers as an apoplectic or nervous Diſorder — which nervous Diſorder is a Something they know not what; and is a kind of Subterfuge for what they do not know.

But the Mad-ſtaggers is nothing more or leſs than a local Fever, of which I have cured many Horſes by the ſame Means, as thoſe directed for the Fever, called the Diſtemper.

Now I'll tell you a Story.

A Horſe mad with the Staggers broke out of a Stable belonging to a Powder-mill, and got to a large Ciſtern of Water, in which ſo much Salt Petre was diſſolved, that it was barely in a State of Fluidity—He drank, or rather ſwallowed ſeveral Gallons; this ſoon promoted a very copious Secretion by the urinary Paſſages, after which he became immediately well, without any other Aſſiſtance.

I mention this to ſhew, that no Quantity of Salt Petre given to the Horſe may perhaps be too great, when the Symptoms are violent — and to prove, that the worſt of Fevers will be cured, by promoting the Secretions of any kind.

Wherein now conſiſts the Virtue of the

ſo

ſo much celebrated Fever Powder of Dr. *James*, but in the promoting ſome kind of Secretion, without which Effect it would be in little Uſe to febrile Diſorders?

When the Horſe is thrown into a Fever by hard Riding (which the Farriers call melting the Greaſe, and Writers alſo) he will be cured by the ſame Methods.

By the ſame Means the pampered Stallion is ſaved, who has revelled in Love and Luxury all the Summer.—Theſe are happily joined together.—But when the Heat of Autumn comes, and the ſeminal Diſcharges are over, he is ſtill fed as high as ever—from which full Habit of Body Fevers often ariſe in various Shapes, and Death enſues.

Now what can be expected from ſuch who live in a conſtant Series of Indolence and Luxury, but a dull, diſeaſed, phlegmatick Race? Wherefore, when the Covering Seaſon is over, he ſhould have more Exerciſe, and leſs Food; and when the Spring comes on, he may be allowed to live more plentifully, by which he will acquire freſh Spirits, and new Vigour to perform the Feats of Love.

And

And thus every kind of Fever in Horſes will be cured, if taken in Hand before the Juices are fallen into a State of Putrefaction.

What the Jockies call the Yellows, is nothing but a Fever ariſing from obſtructed Bile, which will be cured by the Uſe of Salt Petre alone, the Excrement being firſt raked out.—But in this Caſe Bleeding is improper, and the Uſe of Setons unneceſſary.

By the daily Uſe of Salt Petre continued as an Alterative after the Diſtemper, I have rode my Horſe a Fox Hunting in half the Time that I could have done, if he had gone through a Courſe of Phyſick, and he has performed as well in every Reſpect.

If ſuch are the Effects of cooling Medicines in Fevers, What is to be expected from a contrary Treatment, or the inconſiſtent Medley of Cordials, Noſtrums, and Specificks, given by Grooms and Farriers, without ſo much as knowing wherein the Diſorder conſiſts, or even the Nature of the Medicine they uſe as a Remedy?

I'll tell you another Story.

A Man was inoculated for the Small Pox: In

In the Interval of Time, between that and the Eruption, he was ſeized with the Gout in both Feet.—He was ordered to apply Flannels to the ſame, and when the Pock came out, he had none but upon his Feet, which were very full.

I mention this to ſhew, what Evils may be produced by Heat; and for the Learned to conſider, what future Good may in ſuch Caſes be derived from local acquired Heat.

And here occurs to me the wrong Judgment of the Jockey, in ſtopping every Avenue, even to the Key-hole of the Stable Door, whereby the pure nitrous Air is excluded from the faintly reſpiring Horſe.—Hence the ſerous Particles of the Blood are diſcharged.—Hence Fevers appear in different Shapes, and Variety of Illneſs is produced, from not diſtinguiſhing between the Effects of Heat and Warmth.

And here may be juſtly ſaid (what was ſaid before of Lameneſs in the Tendons) that 19 Times in 20 the Diſeaſes befalling running Horſes, and thoſe of the Dealers, are occaſioned by too much Heat, and too confined Air.

Now,

Now, to the beſt of my Obſervation, what is called the Diſtemper amongſt the Horned Cattle, is exactly correſpondent to the Diſtemper amongſt the Horſes, the Symptoms in each Animal being ſimilar in all Reſpects—and what plainly indicates this Diſtemper amongſt the Cows to be an inflammatory Fever, is, that theſe Cows, when they do live, generally eſcape by the Means of ſome critical Swelling, which moſt frequently terminates in one of the hinder Legs, various Inſtances of which I have ſeen.

Wherefore it is not to be doubted, that the ſame Remedies will have the ſame Effect in one Species, as in the other — and that the Legiſlature will give the Farmers Leave (whenever this Diſtemper ſhall again appear) to make Trial thereof, and oblige them to deliver in, at ſome proper Place, the Symptoms of the Diſeaſe, and the Effect of theſe propoſed Remedies.

Now the Author's ſole Motive in publiſhing this is the Good of the Community : — But if theſe Methods ſhould prove ſucceſsful, particular Men will be alſo benefited — For the College of Phyſicians will be prevented the Trouble of any future Meetings on this Occaſion ;

Occaſion; and the good Biſhops will avoid the Fatigue of compoſing pious Forms of Prayer to deprecate this Evil—as if the Almighty Being (like an earthly Prince) was to be influenced by human Entreaties to alter his general Laws, whereby all Things are governed—not conſidering, that natural Evil muſt unavoidably happen to the Creatures of this earthly State, from the Contingencies of Food and Climate.

There is another Diſorder incident to Bullocks, which the Graziers call being hove or ſprung; that is to ſay, the Animal, from overcharging the Stomach, is ſwelled in ſuch a manner, as to bring on ſpeedy Death, unleſs ſoon relieved, all Digeſtion being at a ſtand.—This will be cured by raking the Excrement from the ſtrait Gut, and by Salt Petre, or any laxative Salt given plentifully—or by Sea-water.

When a Strangury befals the Horſe or Bullock, Bleeding, taking away the Excrements, and Salt Petre plentifully given in ſome Barley-water, with Gum Arabick diſſolved therein, are the proper Methods of Cure—now it ſometimes happens, that theſe Animals have encyſted Tumours on the Neck

Neck of the Bladder, in which Caſe I apprehend neither Salt Petre, nor any other Medicine, will have any Effect.

CHAP. II.

Treats of other Diſorders, to which the Horſe is liable.

WHEN recent Coughs or Colds happen, Bleeding, repeated, if neceſſary, warm moiſt Diet, and the following Medicine, will generally remove it.—Take of Flour of Sulphur, cold drawn Linſeed Oil, Salt Petre, each two Ounces, to be given daily in ſome Linſeed, or Liquorice Tea, Barley-water, or any ſuch kind of Vehicle; and above all Things, let him be kept within Doors, Air and Motion irritating the Parts affected.

Let no Man lend an Ear to the Advertiſements of Cures for broken-winded Horſes, how pompous ſoever they may appear—Becauſe, in this Caſe, certain Glands (called the Lymphatick) which are placed upon the the Air-pipe at its Entrance into the Lungs, are become enlarged or indurated, and thereby the Diameter of the Tube is leſſened—Hence the received Air cannot ſo readily

readily make its Eſcape, nor Reſpiration be performed with ſuch Facility as before — from which Quantity of contained Air the Lobes of the Lungs are always enlarged, as may be ſeen by examining the Carcaſes of broken-winded Horſes, after they are dead.

Gripes or Cholick are of two Kinds; one proceeding from the Drinking of cold Water. the other from Coſtiveneſs, and ſubſequent Heat and Inflammation of the Bowels.

The firſt is cured by giving one Ounce of Philonium Romanum, and by repeating it, if there be Occaſion.

In the ſecond, Bleeding is proper; and to be repeated if neceſſary; raking away the Excrement, and the Uſe of cooling, laxative Salts given inwardly to unload the Bowels; for which Purpoſe neutral Salts are the beſt Remedy, ſuch as Tartar Soluble, Glauber Salts, Sal Catharticum, or any ſuch — but Sea-water, I think, better than any Thing, becauſe its Salts are already diſſolved; Clyſters alſo will be of Uſe.

Acid Salts in this Caſe often increaſe the Pain of the Bowels, by irritating the Parts,

of which kind Salt Petre is, and which acts as a Diuretic, rather than a Laxative.

Now to diſtinguiſh the Difference of theſe Cholicks, *Hic labor, hoc opus eſt*, but one is attended with a Fever, the other not—to aſcertain the Exiſtence of which, or not, the Pulſation of the Artery is to be conſulted, which may be felt on the hinder Part of the Fore Leg, either above or below the Knee of the Horſe.

With reſpect to Forms of Phyſick, every Groom and every Farrier has his Receipts, which he ſtill thinks the beſt—Now perhaps the Ingredients given in general may have much the ſame Effect—and if any Miſchief befals the Horſe, it is much more frequently owing to bad Management, than to the Phyſick itſelf.

Yet ſuch Medicines as are of a ſtimulating Nature ſhould be avoided, becauſe they greatly deprive the Inteſtines of that Mucus, which is deſigned to line and guard them—from the Appearance of which Mucus amongſt the Dung of the Horſe, the Farrier gravely and wiſely remarks that he is very foul.

The

The Miſchief that generally happens to the Horſe in Phyſick is owing to this Cauſe; namely, that the Phyſick, not working ſo readily as may be wiſhed, the Horſe is trotted about till he is ready to drop, is thrown into a Heat, perhaps a Sweat, by raiſing which new Secretion the Purging is entirely ſtopped, and a Fever enſues, which terminates in the Loſs of Eyes, of Feet, or in Death; many Inſtances of all which I have known.

When the Criſis of a Fever falls on the Feet, on this or any other Occaſion, the proper Method of Acting is to cut them off round and ſhort at the Toe, till the Blood appears, and with a drawing Knife to ſcore the Hoof all round longitudinally at proper Intervals of Space (till you reach the Quick) beginning a little below the coronary Ring, and continuing the ſame to the End of the Foot or Toe; hence the new Hoof will have more Liberty to puſh itſelf out, and the Matter to be diſcharged; the Parts are to be dreſſed with ſome unctuous Medicine, ſuch as the yellow Baſilicon, and the whole Foot to be wrapped up with an emollient Poultice — by which Means the Feet will often become as good and ſound as ever;

and if any Matter be lodged in the Bottom of the Foot, an Aperture may be made in the Sole on each Side the Frog towards the Toe.

Now this laſt Method of Scoring the Foot longitudinally is of late come much into Practice, with an Intent to cure Lameneſs ariſing from the contracted Form of the ſame; which Method, together with being turned to Graſs, expands the Foot for a Time; but when theſe Scorings are quite grown out, and the Horſe is taken to Houſe, ſuch Foot returns again in a ſhort Time to its primitive natural contracted State, and he becomes juſt as lame as he was before.

Of Diſeaſes of the Eye I have nothing to ſay, having never ſeen any Method of Acting, but what is uncertain and cannot be relied on.

There are ſo many Forms of Purging already preſcribed, which, for any Thing I know to the contrary, may be all equally good, that it ſeems needleſs here to direct any; yet, for the Reader's Amuſement, I ſhall relate my own Method.

I take

I take of *Barbadoes* Aloes a ſufficient Quantity, which given from one Ounce to one and an half, is enough for moſt Horſes; of Powdered Jallap two Drachms, and becauſe this reſinous Gum remains long in the Stomach without diſſolving, I add three Drachms of Salt of Tartar, which is the proper Menſtruum or Diſſolvent thereof; and to prevent griping, I add one Ounce of Ginger powdered.

But if the Salt of Tartar be mixed with the Aloes, it becomes immediately ſo brittle, that it cannot be given in the Form of a Ball, wherefore I generally mix the Aloes and Jallap together by the Heat of the Fire, and give it in a Ball; and after that I give the Ginger and Salt of Tartar in ſome warm Ale.

I generally give my Horſe a pretty large Doſe, and when the Day of Purging comes, I walk him out once in the Morning (when I give him cold Water) till it begins to operate in Earneſt; after which, he ſeldom need be taken out any more.

Now it frequently happens, from the ſtimulating Quality of the Medicine, from too

large a Doſe, or a weak Habit of Body, that a Flux enſues for many Days; in this Caſe give him Gruel, made of boiled Rice and Water, with ſome Gum Arabic diſſolved therein, and repeat it; this will ſheath the ſtimulated Bowels: And Philonium Romanum, repeated at Intervals of Time (as Occaſion ſhall direct) will ſtop the Purging, to which a Tea Spoonful or two of Liquid Laudanum may be added, if there be need. —And when he will eat Corn of any Sort, let him have it; or Rice, either boiled or raw.

For a common Flux or Scowering, Rhubarb and Nutmeg is the beſt Remedy.

For the Cure of Worms or Bolts, Mercury given for a Time in ſmall Quantities, or any Kind of Bitters, will anſwer the Intention.—Now Savin, Box, and Rue, boiled in Tanner's Ooze, to the Conſumption of half the Liquor, and a Pint of the ſame when ſtrained, given every Morning, is as good a Medicine for the Purpoſe (I believe) as any can be uſed.

And ſuch an Antipathy have all Worms to all Bitters, that if you take ſome green Walnut

Walnut Leaves, and bruiſe them on a hard Body in ſome Water, and pour the ſame into the Ground, between the Interſtices of a bricked Court, or any other Place where Worms are lodged, they will immediately come rolling out of the Ground with all Speed, to avoid this noxious Juice.

The Farcy ariſes from a vitiated Blood, and when catched, as it may be by licking the Matter from other Horſes, the ſame Effect will be produced.

When the Skin breaks, and Buds of ſprouting fungous Fleſh appear on any Part, ſuch are to be touched with a hot Iron, a Rag dipped in Aqua Fortis, or Oil of Vitriol, Powder of Vitriol, or any other Medicine of an eſcharotic Quality may be uſed.

When Swellings fall on any Part, which is no uncommon Symptom in this Diſorder, a Poultice made with the emollient Fomentation thickened with Oatmeal, is to be applied, and Salt Petre given in both Caſes twice a Day, but not in ſmall Quantities.

For the Mange (which every Body knows already how to cure) take Sulphur Vivum

powdered, mix it with any Oil, anoint the Horſe with the ſame all over, let his Diet be good, and Salt Petre given to alter the Habit of Body.

With reſpect to Malenders, ſwelled Legs, Scratches, Scurfy Heels, what is called the Greaſe, and ſuch like Diſorders; theſe all proceed from a languid and obſtructed Circulation, whence enſues a Coldneſs in the extreme Parts.—The proper Remedy for theſe, is warm Fomentations applied to the Part; good rubbing of the Limbs is neceſſary, and a Poultice compoſed of Rye-meal, and Milk, is the moſt proper Application to ſore Heels; all unctuous Medicines doing more Harm than Good. The Habit of Body is to be altered, for which Purpoſe this Salt will be found effectual, by removing the Obſtructions, and promoting a more free Circulation.

CHAP. III.

Treats of Matters not altogether foreign to the Subject.

AND here I am obliged to take Notice of an Error moſt People have fallen into,

into, with Reſpect to the Virtue of Salt Marſhes, recommended by Writers in general for theſe laſt mentioned Purpoſes; who all ſpeak of Salt Marſhes, as if they believed ſome particular Quality was contained in this Herbage more than in any other; when the Caſe in Reality is only this.—That theſe Marſhes having been occaſionally overflowed for a long Period of Time with Salt-water, are rendered very rich; hence the Appetite of the Horſe is provoked to eat more greedily, and by the ſalubrious Juice of this Herbage, as of any other, the Secretions of all Kinds are highly promoted. In Conſequence of which, Obſtructions are removed, the Blood and Juices become altered, and as the Cauſe of the Diſeaſe is carried off, the Animal thrives.

But there is no more Virtue in a Salt Marſh, than in any other inland Field, except in the Richneſs of the Paſture, which if manured for a Time with Salt-water, might juſt as properly be called a Salt Marſh.

And here occurs to me the Miſtake and Folly of all Huſbandmen, who ſuffer the Dung-water, in which the Oil and Salt of

the Dung is contained, to run away from their Yards diſregarded, and be loſt in Ditches and other Channels, which, if carried on the Land, would according to its Degree of Strength, have juſt the ſame Effect as Sea-water.

And keeping their Dung-heaps dry, or turned about, and rendered fine, is a Miſtake of the ſame Nature; the ſaline and oily Particles being loſt and evaporated hereby.—Hence it will neither dreſs ſo much Land, nor produce ſuch good Effects.

From the known Effects of Salt in promoting Vegetation of all Kinds, I believe it might eaſily be made appear, that this Government loſes annually conſiderable Sums from the Duty laid hereon.—But if it ſhould be thought neceſſary to continue the Duty on Salt uſed for Victualling, the Huſbandman might nevertheleſs be allowed any Quantity Duty-free, (the ſame being rendered at the Place of making, unfit for eating by a Mixture of Earth) the Profits of which, to this Nation, would be greater than may be readily conceived.

And

And with Reſpect to the medicinal Uſe of Salt, it may perhaps be of as much Service to Mankind in many Diſorders, as it is to the Brute Creation; Reſpect being had to the Difference thereof, for the Sake of Conſtitution.

For in all ſcrophulous, ſcorbutic Complaints, gravel, cholicky Pains, proceeding from heated Bowels, in Fevers, inflammatory Diſorders of all Kinds, bilious Obſtructions, Rheumatic Complaints, in Intervals of the Gout, and many other Chronical Diſorders, it will be found a Medicine of great Efficacy, if continued to be taken for a Time.—But the Misfortune of all Medicines, intended as Alteratives, is, that the Patient expects to be cured in a few Weeks, of a Diſorder he has been treaſuring up for many Years, and perhaps continues daily to do the ſame, or which Diſorder may have been entailed on him by his Anceſtors.

To cleanſe the Stomach from ſlimy viſcid Juices, Salt will be found a proper Remedy, as may be gathered from the Uſe of Sea-water; which, if taken too freely, will operate not only on the Stomach, but on the Coats of the Inteſtines alſo, in ſuch a Manner,

Manner, as greatly to diſcharge their Mucus, and produce violent Bloody Fluxes.—Various Inſtances of which have been known.

Now Food and Climate I take to be the Origin of all Diſeaſe;—by which two Things the Bile or Gall is more immediately and primarily affected in all Countries, and in all Conſtitutions.—From which laſt Source the Generality of chronical Diſorders, and ſome acute Ones are alſo derived.

The Uſe of this Bile is to complete the Digeſtion by aſſimilating the Food, and rendering its Juices fit to enter the lacteal Veſſels.—It is the Soap, or Menſtruum of the Body.—The Fountain and Origin of all other Secretions (on the Regularity of which Health depends) without which (Bile) every Animal on Earth would ſoon fall into a State of Putrefaction.

Hence I have been led to think, that what we call real Diſeaſes, howſoever diſtinguiſhed by their various Names and Symptoms, are, perhaps, no more in general, than ſecondary Effects, produced by the State and Nature of the Bile, and the Secretion thereof.

In

In colder Climates, or inactive Life, this bilious Juice is more ſparingly ſecreted; hence the various Kinds or Loads of Aliment impoſed on the Stomach, not being duly aſſimilated, either from the Quantity or Quality of this Juice, other ſubordinate Secretions, depending on this proper one of the Bile, will not be regularly, or truly promoted.

Hence Obſtructions will ariſe of various Kinds, and different Men will be variouſly affected, according to the different Organiſm of their bodily Syſtem.

And what we call hereditary Diſeaſes, depend (as I conceive) on the Similitude of bodily Organs, begotten by the Father, and entailed on the Son, according to the general Laws of Nature.—In which Senſe alone it muſt be, that the Sins of the Father are ſaid to be viſited upon his unhappy Deſcendants.—Now in all ſuch Circumſtances where Obſtructions are produced (be the Cauſe what it will) Salt will be found a good Medicine.

In hotter Climates, Diſeaſes in general ariſe from too copious a Secretion of this bilious

bilious Juice.—In theſe Circumſtances, it is probable, the Uſe of Salt would prove detrimental.—And I have been told by a very judicious Surgeon, who was ſome Years in the *Eaſt Indies*, and who was alſo fond of giving Nitre in Fevers, from the Succeſs he had occaſionally obſerved attending it.—That this Medicine, given in Fevers peculiar to that Country, was, according to his Obſervation, very deſtructive; and that, by its promoting ſtill greater Secretions of the Bile, immoderate Fluxes were produced, which generally ended in Death.

Perhaps alſo the different Complexions of Mankind, inhabiting the various Parts of this terreſtrial World, depend alone on the Secretion of this bilious Juice.—The Colour of a Black ariſing from nothing elſe than a Kind of Mucus, which is retained between the Skin and the Cuticle; the Fibres of the Skin being white in all Men.

How abſurdly then do ſuch People, argue who maintain, that there are two Sorts of Men created by the Almighty, one deſtined to Slavery, the other to Wealth and Power.—The Effect alone of Arts and Arms.

That

That the Origin, Breed, Lineage, or Blood, was alſo the ſame in the Beginning, in every Species of the ſame Kind throughout the Creation, I think no Man in his Senſes will deny.—And that on the Difference of Food, Climate and Chance, or rather the Want of Judgment in Mankind of the Laws of Nature (where his WISDOM is concerned in directing the Propagation of any Beings) the Difference of all Animals depends, both with Reſpect to their conſtituent Parts, and the different Formation thereof.—On which two laſt Cauſes all Action muſt entirely depend of every created Being, and on no other Principle whatſoever.

And whenever the Offspring of any Animal, deſigned for ſpeedy Action, deviates in his conſtituent Parts, or the Formation thereof (in certain Degrees) from that of his Anceſtors, (how famed ſoever) whether the Difference be produced by Food, Climate, Chance, or Want of Judgment in the Breeder, the Blood, Breed, Lineage, or Pedigree of ſuch is not worth a ſingle Sixpence. —Which Truth may be ſeen verified every Day in the Breed of Horſes of all Families, and of Dogs alſo.

To return to the Uſe of Salt.

Now this Medicine externally applied is a great diſcutient, and inwardly taken a great Deobſtruent.—That is to ſay, by promoting various Secretions, Obſtructions productive of Diſeaſe are removed.

From this deobſtruent Quality of Salt it ſtands recommended to the World; but if any Man is acquainted with one that is more ſo, he would be highly culpable not to uſe it.—Nor am I ſo partial an Advocate for this Medicine, as to think it incapable of Improvement by being joined to ſome other.—Perhaps Antimony, which is alſo a great Deobſtruent, added to it, might give it additional Virtue.—More eſpecially in chronical Caſes.

But I have always been content to give my Horſe Salt alone, and that becauſe it has always anſwered the Intent I have propoſed in giving it.

Nor do I conceive that ſuch Effects are at all to be wondered at; becauſe, from the Sameneſs and Simplicity of the Food of this Animal, the Fluids (which in general ſeem alone to be affected) are much more eaſily rendered

rendered thin, and their Viſcidity deſtroyed, than in the human Species, whoſe manner of Living is ſomewhat different.

But leſt I ſhould be thought too fond of this Medicine, with reſpect to its general Efficacy, I ſhould be glad to know wherein conſiſts the Virtue of all the Waters of the World, but in the Salt which they contain; the Water itſelf having no more Virtue, than any other common watery Vehicle.—Hot ones indeed, (whilſt they remain in a State of Heat) may perhaps be impregnated with other Materials alſo.

Hence the Phyſician, having long in vain drenched the ſickly Mortal with the whole *Materia Medica*, ſends him at laſt to drink ſome Kind of Water, that happens to be moſt in Faſhion.—Now the Salts of different Waters differ in their Nature and Effect, whereby different Conſtitutions are diverſely affected.—Hence the Patient of the Son of *Æſculapius* is often left, like the Farrier's, to be cured by Chance.

—— *Quid Rides? Mutato Nomine, de te Fabula narratur* ——

And yet there are many worthy Practi-

tioners

tioners in this Kingdom, whoſe Integrity, Judgment, and Obſervation, do Honour to themſelves, and Benefit to Mankind.

We find alſo, that Salt will eradicate the moſt deadly Poiſon we are acquainted with in theſe happy Climes.—For when Man or Beaſt is bit by a mad Dog, the Sea-water often proves an effectual Cure; and whenever it does not, it is entirely owing to its not operating ſufficiently, and producing the ſame Secretions in one Patient as in another; wherefore Regard is to be had to the Operation of this Water, when taken for this Malady.

Claps alſo will be ſafely and effectually cured by the Uſe of Sea-water.—But leſt any of my Readers ſhould be unacquainted with this Diſorder, it is a lamentable Soreneſs of the genital Parts (as I have been told) attended with a Running, and comes from the Infection of ſome Air.

Come, gentle Air, the *Ætolian* Shepherd ſaid,
Whilſt *Procris* panted in the ſecret Shade.

Now this Air, in the original Language called

called *Aura*, was ſuppoſed to be a kept Miſtreſs, but, like your modern Street-walker, was common to all the World.

But what is particular, no Gleet ever attends the Cure by Sea-water, occaſioned moſt probably by the vitriolic Quality, with which all Sea-water is more or leſs impregnated.—But if this Sea-water ſhould operate too briſkly as a Purgative, it will ſtop the Running, and produce Buboes; which Effect any other Purge operating too briſkly will alſo have.

Now the Author has told his Tale in as conciſe a Manner as he well could, being inclined to edify, rather than puzzle the Reader, by multiplying uſeleſs Words, which Conciſeneſs will ſave both Writer and Reader ſome Trouble.—A Matter of no ſmall Conſideration.

He has endeavoured alſo to treat this Subject as clearly as he could, tho' no Method of treating Diſeaſes or Wounds can be ſo clear or preciſe, but that much will depend on the Judgment of the Practitioner. —In the one Caſe, from Appearance and Locality; in the other, from the Occurrence

of

of various Symptoms often annexed to the ſame Diſeaſe; in both, from Habit of Body.

With Reſpect to the future Progreſs of this Medicine, called Salt, it may meet with Diſregard from one Part of Mankind, either from the Simplicity of its Nature, or want of Skill and Perſeverance in the giving it; and with Oppoſition from many of that other Part of Mankind ycleped the ſkilful, for the ſame Reaſon that *Demetrius* the Silverſmith, and his fellow Craftſmen, were ſuch ſtrenuous Advocates for the Worſhip of *Diana* the *Epheſian* Goddeſs.

And now, gentle Reader, if you have ever read much on this Subject, you have alſo read of many other Diſeaſes incident to the Horſe, beſides what are contained in this little Book; but for my own Part, who am ever ready to confeſs my Failings, I acknowledge, that I have not been able to diſcover any other (few excepted) than what have been here treated of; but I can readily believe, that a Horſe may have a Stone in the Bladder, a Mortification in the Bowels, from Coſtiveneſs and Inflammation; that he may have Tumours internally, encyſted, and other; that he may have Diſeaſes of the

the Omentum, and of the Blood Veſſels, attended with Ruptures of the ſame.

But I hold it vain, to trouble the Reader with an Account of Diſeaſes that will admit of a very uncertain, or no Remedy.—Yet I hear there is a Treatiſe compiling on this Subject, which, they ſay, cannot be contained in leſs than ten Volumes; therefore I take it for granted, that it is not an incomplete one, like mine; but if the Number of Medicines to be given the Horſe, ſhould be equal to the Number of Diſeaſes, which, from the Quantity of the Work may be ſuppoſed to be contained therein, I ſhall be heartily concerned for this moſt noble Animal, for whom I have long had a very particular Friendſhip, from the many Virtues I have diſcovered in him.

There is another Diſeaſe indeed incident to Horſes, called the Glanders, * the Account of which, and Method of Cure, the Author reſerves for another Opportunity.

* *See* La Foſſe's *Treatiſe upon the true Seat of the Glanders in Horſes, with the Method of Cure, tranſlated by* H. Bracken, *M. D. Price a* Britiſh *Six-pence.*

That

Thus far the Author has laid himſelf under a Promiſe of Printing;—he is ſenſible, that there are ſundry Miſtakes and Deficiencies in this Treatiſe;—but from the particular Prejudices ſhewn to the Publication of it, he deſires the Critics to take Notice, that ſuch are purpoſely left unamended, he being little anxious about the Reception of his Book, or the Information it may give. *Vale & Fruere.*

FINIS.

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